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SALT-II BACKERS DEMAND 'MORE RESOLUTE ACTION'

LD221431 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 79 p 4 LD

[Correspondent T. Kolesnichenko dispatch: "SALT-II: The Struggle Flares Up"; names in parentheses as transliterated]

[Text] New York City, March--The closer the completion of the elaboration of the new Soviet-U.S. agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms (SALT-II), and the more real the prospects of its being signed, the more acute the struggle in America surrounding this vitally important problem.

What, one might think, could be more important just now than placing effective obstacles in the path of the further accumulation of the most devastating and costly types of weapons? One would think that the need to continue the actual process of curbing the arms race and improving the international climate as a whole is perfectly obvious. However, it is precisely on the SALT-II issue that loud debates are today being conducted in the press and on Capitol Hill. And while the majority of Americans are in favor of SALT-II (this is confirmed by public opinion polls), forces in the United States, small in number, but extremely influential are doing everything possible to torpedo the agreement being prepared.

At first glance the opposition to SALT-II is extremely motley. It includes senators and congressmen, businessmen and labor union bureaucrats, representatives of the mass media, retired military men and also Pentagon figures who are still "active". But they are united by a fear of the materialization of detente, by an unrealizable dream of a U.S. "global advantage," by hostility toward the Soviet Union and by loyal service to the military-industrial complex.

This latter, for instance, can be confirmed by a simple arithmetical calculation. According to statistics from the Senate Budget Committee, the absence of a SALT-II agreement would lead by the mideighties to additional military spending totalling $70 billion, not taking into account inflation. The real figures, as the NEW WORLD REVIEW points out, would come to almost $140 billion. It is not hard to guess that these billions of dollars would be channeled straight from the taxpayers' pockets into the coffers of the military-industrial complex bigwigs. The focal point of the struggle surrounding the SALT agreement is now the U.S. Senate. The enemies of detente want to retard legislatively the process of disarmament and of the limitation and prohibition of mass-destruction weapons. The backing of two-thirds of the senators is required to ratify the treaty. There are 100 legislators in the Senate. To date, 29 senators have declared that they will vote against the treaty, thus, the opponents of the agreement need another five votes in order to torpedo it in the Senate. Flocking together as the instigators of this dangerous and unscrupulous game are those well-known "hawks": Senators Jackson, Hayakawa, Tower, Nunn, Garn and others. Democrats and Republicans, temporarily forgetting interparty strife, are shouting in unison about the "growing Soviet danger."

Referring to "reliable data" supplied to them by the advocates of the military-industrial complex entrenched in the so-called "Committee on the Present Danger" (Nitze, Moorer, Teller, Taylor and others), these "patriots" are intimidating public opinion by juggling with a set of military terms and missile names, and by repeating this whole pack of lies over and over again on Capitol Hill, in the press and on television. [paragraph continues]

Just recently they have added one more "weighty argument" to those they have used before: As a result of the revolution in Iran it has been necessary to close the espionage bases from which the U.S. military tried to "peek" into Soviet territory. And since without these bases it will be impossible to verify compliance with commitments under SALT II, they say, no such agreements are necessary.

George Kistiakowsky, former special assistant to President Eisenhower, recently published an article in the New York REVIEW which attracted much attention. It was called "False Alarm: What Lies Behind SALT-II." The author totally shatters the arguments of the opponents of SALT-II and shows on the basis of ready facts how they are shamelessly deceiving Americans.

It is extremely significant that particular activeness among the opponents of SALT-II is displayed by the selfsame circle of people who, without taxing their imagination too much, have been resorting for 20 years to the same "arguments" as they are using now, and are trying to fool the U.S. public. At each and every spiral of the arms race, Kistiakowsky observes, the United States was the pioneer of that spiral and billions of dollars were extorted with the aid of the same old fable about the "Soviet threat."

In 1957 a special group "on the Soviet threat" was set up in the White House under the leadership of (Geyter). It included, incidentally, former U.S. Under Secretary of Defense Nitze. And at that time a clamor was raised about the "catastrophic gulf" between the levels of development of Soviet and U.S. ICBMs. This was a deception aimed at obtaining additional money for the development of U.S. missiles, the author notes. In the sixties the same Nitze, together with Congressman Laird, who subsequently became U.S. defense secretary, brought down upon the senators a deluge of "reliable facts" about the U.S. "lag" in antimissile defense (ABM). Although this was yet another deception, under the influence of these "arguments" the Senate approved expenditure on the creation of the Safeguard ABM system.

And here is yet another example of how the Pentagon's "false alarm" has brought another arms race spiral. In 1969, when the SALT-I talks began, the question arose of the then new system of MIRVed missiles. It was still not clear at the time, Kistiakowsky believes, how far each of the sides had progressed in the development of this system, and the USSR and the United States could still have achieved a moratorium on the testing of those missiles.

But this idea, Kistiakowsky observes, was resolutely rejected by the Pentagon. Laird stated publicly that he had precise data on Soviet testing of these missiles. "The public was again deceived," the author writes. "The United States began testing MIRVed missiles in 1968, the Soviet Union did not begin such tests until 1973. The United States began developing this system in 1970, the USSR in 1975." Of course, in the interests of insuring its security the Soviet Union rapidly caught up with the United States. "Again the responsibility for the arms race," commentator (M. Bertel) stresses in the NEW WORLD REVIEW, "rested with the United States which prevented MIRVed missiles being included in SALT-I."

F. Kaplan, an arms control expert from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and (R. Oldrizh) an expert in the same field, write about the same issue. They note that it is not the Soviet Union but the U.S. military which has on each occasion initiated a new spiral of the arms race. This has been done despite the reasonable proposals of the Soviet Union which has always advocated, and does advocate, arms limitation and, ultimately, complete disarmament.

And assertions by SALT opponents that there are no reliable means of monitoring a treaty and that therefore it would be "ineffectual" do not stand up to criticism. [paragraph continues]

All this talk has the one objective--to deceive the public and to secure the go-ahead for further production of mass-destruction weapons. Let us recall recent history. In 1977 the same Laird published in READER'S DIGEST an article which at that time caused a great stir. The article spoke of alleged Soviet violations of the SALT-I agreement. Secretary of State Vance had publicly to refute this statement which proved in fact to be just more lies and slander. But Harvard University's Prof Richard Pipes, a virulent anti-Soviet who has taken up the cudgels against a SALT agreement, went so far as to allege that the Soviet Union "is prepared to risk a nuclear attack." George Kennan, well-known diplomat and historian, who was himself at one time the prisoner of such "theories," exposed in detail the untenability and ravings of the Harvard "oracle's" allegations.

The SALT opponents are maneuvering. Apart from the diehards already mentioned, there are also among them those who in principle are in favor of strategic arms limitation, but with a higher ceiling.

There also exists in the Senate a group of so-called "waverers." They are "for an agreement in principle," but they would like to "amend" it. This group includes those senators seeking reelection in 1980 (a total of 34, of whom 24 are Democrats). They know that the voters are in favor of SALT-II and therefore they are afraid of openly opposing the agreement, but many of them are not adverse to resorting at times to the old ruse employed here in the campaign struggle--the display of "firmness." This is the kind of narrowmindedly self-seeking approach that certain U.S. legislators take toward the very important problems of insuring peace. It is not for nothing that people say of such legislators here: "They are prepared to set their own house afire in order to fry a dish of bacon and eggs."

Meanwhile SALT-II's supporters, realizing the acuteness of the situation, are pooling their efforts. The recently created Americans for SALT coalition includes representatives of broad sections of U.S. society: people from the business world, scientific figures, clergymen and so forth. The coalition includes people known to the whole of America who have held high office in the recent past--C. Clifford, H. Lodge, T. Hoopes, H. Scoville and leaders of the biggest labor unions. The organization's headquarters is located on Washington's 4th Street. From there, as T. Hoopes said at a press conference, "explanatory work is conducted and public opinion is mobilized to exert pressure on the Senate." "SALT-II," he stressed, "is not a concession to the Russians, it is not a favor to them, but it is a reasonable compromise which takes account of the national interests of both sides."

The SALT-II supporters are also demanding more resolute action by the administration. "How many foreign policy courses do we have," asks the magazine NATION, "one, two or more...? Why, when Secretary of State Vance is pushing SALT-II, does Brzezinski, the President's national security assistant, avoid mentioning the word?" The magazine also points to the equivocal position of Schlesinger, head of the Energy Department, which is known here as the "little Pentagon."

Brzezinski and Schlesinger are actively pushing the theory of so-called "linkage" in an attempt to tie SALT-II to "Soviet conduct" in Africa, the Near East and other regions of the world where U.S. diplomacy is suffering one failure after another.

But more and more Americans are realizing that the SALT-II agreement is too important for Soviet-U.S. relations and for all mankind. These people rightly believe that there is today no task more important than that of completing the preparation of the new SALT agreement, which can become a real step out of the vicious circle of the arms race and an important impetus for improving Soviet-U.S. relations and the entire international climate.

TASS NOTES SALT DELEGATIONS HOLD MEETING IN GENEVA

LD211142 Moscow TASS in English 1108 GMT 21 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Geneva, March 21, TASS--The delegations of the USSR and the USA to the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks had a new meeting here today.

COMMENTATOR CALLS FOR END TO DELAY IN MBFR TALKS

LD221838 Moscow in Romanian to Romania 1600 GMT 21 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Our correspondent Andrey Sokolov writes from Vienna from the talks for the mutual reduction of armed forces in central Europe: Observers in the Austrian capital are increasingly wondering: What is the reason for the impasse at the Vienna talks when it is obvious that the stances adopted by the participants have moved considerably closer together. It is also emphasized that favorable conditionsfor real progress occurred some 9 months ago when the Soviet Union, the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia put forward compromise proposals taking into account the West's stance. The socialist states initiatives enabled a consensus on important matters of principle from the Western point of view. The Warsaw Pact states said that they were ready for compromise by accepting the establishment of equal collective levels for the troops. They accepted the Western proposal to reduce, for the moment, only ground forces while freezing the number of air force effectives. They also agreed that during the first stage American and Soviet troops should be reduced in proportion to their existing numbers, and also that during the first stage a selective reduction and limitation of the Soviet and U.S. types of arms requested [cerute] by the NATO countries should be carried out. Specifically, the Soviet Union is willing, as a start, to withdraw within a year some 30,000 military men as well as large amounts of weapons [words indistinct] from central Europe, conditional on U.S. reductions to a smaller extent of its armed forces. The question arises: Why is there an impasse in the Vienna talks? Because the Western countries have pushed the talks into a morass of sterile talks on the means of counting the armed forces personnel of the sides. As is known, the debates [words indistinct] occurred following the negative stance of the West toward the official data submitted by the socialist countries. Throughout the dispute which has lasted more than 2 and a half years the Western side could not refute the accuracy of any of the figures presented by the Warsaw Pact states, just as it could not justify the accuracy of its own estimates. This shows once more that the data presented by the socialist states at the talks reflect the real number of Warsaw Pact troops in central Europe and prove the approximately equal number of armed forces of the two military groups in the area. In the circumstances in which the stances of the sides came considerably nearer on most of the important problems, the artificial definition by the West of the problem of figures as a central element signifies nothing but an attempt to reject an agreement and to procrastinate indefinitely. It is clear that such tactics suit certain influential circles in the West, which do not conceal the desire to thus gain the time required to carry out a vast program intended to step up NATO's military potential. The Soviet Union together with other socialist countries takes a completely opposite stance: They advocate the steady development and the use without delay of all existing possibilities with a view to reaching a consensus in the Vienna talks. The reduction of the dangerous military confrontation [oozitie] in central Europe can and must be achieved but only through strict observance of an equal and mutual basis and without detriment to either side.

PRAVDA BERATES WESTERN MEDIA FOR BIAS, LACK OF INDEPENDENCE

LD221415 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 79 p 4 LD

[A. Krasikov article: "'Information' from the Misinformers" under rubric "From the Ideological Front"]

[Text] Scarcely anyone will deny the tremendous role that the mass media play in the world today. Newspapers, magazines, radio, television and film documentaries bring to the attention of millions of people events taking place in the most remote corners of the world and influence the shaping of public awareness. Mass information can be used to improve mutual understanding among peoples and to promote the positive solution of the most important domestic and international problems. But it can also be directed toward the attainment of opposite goals: The kindling of mistrust and hatred among people.

Last November, at the 20th session of the UNESCO general conference in Paris, a declaration was adopted on basic principles concerning the contribution of the mass media to strengthening peace and international mutual understanding and to developing human rights and the struggle against racism, apartheid and incitement to war. For the first time in international practice, this document provided the mass media with a common and coordinated mandate from all countries: To promote rapprochement among peoples for the sake of the noble goals of peace and progress.

Unfortunately, however, to date no changes have taken place in the tone of the propaganda being conducted by the big press of the capitalist countries and China. The same old leitmotives about the need to arm and about the alleged fact that only the USSR can gain from detente and arms limitation are to be heard in English, French, German, Japanese, Chinese and other languages.

Questions of information policy are currently being examined by a special commission set up by UNESCO under the chairmanship of S. MacBride, a prominent Irish public figure. I remember the silence that fell on the hall where the commission held its session when its chairman reminded the press of its responsibility to mankind. "In the West," he said, "propaganda is conducted in favor of a return to cold war, propaganda aimed at whipping up the arms race. I am deeply disturbed by the shamelessness with which so-called military-strategic 'statistics' are being used in the context of campaigns for the creation of new types of weapons of mass destruction."

Indeed, the opponents of international detente have literally deluged the press with material painting a distorted picture of the modern world. They disseminate conjectures about the "aggressiveness" of the Soviet Union, which is allegedly building up arms "over and above its defense requirements." Here they ignore the USSR's repeated statements about its readiness to go as far in questions of disarmament as its partners are prepared to go. The fact is also ignored that our country has neither territorial nor any other claims against its neighbors, just as it has none against any other states.

By fanning the myth about the "Soviet threat," the reactionary press of the West and Chinese propaganda are trying to justify the unrestrained growth of military preparations in their own countries, which has already created not a mythical but a perfectly real threat to peace. At the same time attention is being diverted away from the acute social and economic problems which have been awaiting solution for many years--inflation, unemployment and so forth.

Another method of diverting the public's attention from problems which really do exist, which is being used in the West, is the relishing of scandalous news items, the detailed description of incidents and accidents, and intrusion into people's intimate lives. A year ago UPI asked the newspapers which use its services to list the 10 chief news items of the previous 12 months. Commenting on the list of "chief news items" compiled as a result of this survey, the U.S. communist newspaper the DAILY WORLD observed that catastrophes, the death of idols, floods and fires overshadowed many really important events of the year.

But what is the bourgeois journalists' attitude to the contents of their press organs? During my years as a correspondent in the countries of Western Europe I have had occasion to become acquainted with many of them. And I must say that, although our opinions frequently diverged in assessing the most important events, the majority of them agreed with me on one thing: While we assess any particular concrete event in different ways, we cannot overlook our conscience, conceal the truth or "juggle the facts."

However, on their own admission it is not easy for Western journalists to adhere to these principles. Their editorial offices demand from their employees a definite bias in the presentation of material, however far it may diverge from reality.

Far from all, of course, have sufficient courage to remain absolutely loyal to the truth. In this respect the results of an opinion poll conducted among journalists by the Paris-based Political Research Institute are typical. More than half of the 120 French radio and television employees who were questioned admitted that they were forced to write things which ran counter to their own views, 42 percent experienced pressure from businessmen, 40 percent--pressure from the government, and 27 percent--pressure from the police.

According to the figurative expression of the West German publicist Paul (Zete) freedom of the press in the capitalist world boils down to "the freedom of the rich to impose their opinion." A similar thought was openly expressed by D. McDonald, editor of the U.S. CENTER magazine: "A professional journalist has at his disposal only that part of freedom that his boss gives him." The owners of bourgeois publications, the French weekly FRANCE NOUVELLE wrote apropos of this, "have all the conditions for them to be able to select the necessary person for the particular article required." What happens to those who venture to display stubbornness in spreading the opposite views is shown by the fate of the employees of the Paris newspaper LE FIGARO who were dismissed by the newspaper's proprietor R. Hersant.

The activity of such mass media organs is also burdened by the fact that they are an integral part of the business world and are analagous to industrial, commercial and financial enterprises. They are subject to the same laws and they suffer from the same ills.

According to UNESCO data, the total circulation of all the newspapers published in the world is now more than 400 million, and it has increased by 20 percent over the last decade. At the same time there has been an appreciable tendency for the number of publications to diminish in the capitalist world and toward a concentration of the press. Thus, whereas at the beginning of this century 95 percent of U.S. newspapers were described as "independent" and belonging to individual proprietors, more than half are now owned by major concerns. In Britain, 86 percent of the newspaper circulation is accounted for by the publications of four monopolies. In France, until recently, every sixth reader obtained his news from R. Hersant's newspaper empire.

A similar situation has also developed in the FRG, where more than half the newspapers and magazines belong to 10 concerns. As the FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU observed, the process of the concentration of the press had led to a situation where only one newspaper is published in each of the majority of the country's regions. Rivals have either failed to survive in the battle against their stronger competitors or else have been absorbed by them.

The newspaper and magazine corporations in turn are dependent on big business. In waging a fierce competitive struggle for sales markets the monopolies are forced to spend increasingly large sums on advertising their wares. In the United States, for instance, prior to World War II between $1.5 billion and $2 billion annually were spent for these purposes, but the sum is now more than $25 billion. Part of this money is channeled into press advertising, and in the publishing houses' budgets this money constitutes a sum far in excess of the income from the sale of newspapers and magazines. All this attests that without the advertisers' financial support the majority of periodicals in the West would have ceased to exist long ago.

The various services which organize ideological subversion also exert a great influence on the Western press. The forms and methods of this interference are quite widely known. They include the organization of propaganda campaigns hostile to peace and detente, the infiltration of secret service agents into press organs at home and abroad, the dissemination of deliberate slander, and straightforward misinformation.

All this shows what difficulties journalists who sincerely seek to promote rapprochement among peoples and the improvement of mutual understanding among states with different social systems have to surmount. The powerful forces which today control the press in the capitalist world and also Beijing's propaganda apparatus are continuing to use the press as an instrument for waging a psychological war against detente, peace and socialism and in support of aggressive schemes and actions.

Of course, the struggle between socialism and capitalism is being waged and will continue to be waged in the political, economic and ideological spheres. "But we shall strive," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said, "to insure that this historically inevitable struggle passes into a channel where there is no threat of wars, dangerous conflicts or uncontrolled arms race. That will be a tremendous gain for the cause of world peace and for the interests of peoples and all states."

It is precisely from this angle that the role of the mass media in the modern world should be viewed. We are in favor of the freedom of the press and of the broad exchange of information. But we are opposed to the mass media being used for kindling war and hatred among the peoples and to the detriment of the most important and most fundamental humen right--the right to life.

IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTER PROPOSES UN SESSION ON MIDEAST

LD222208 Moscow TASS in English 1853 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

["Proposal of Foreign Minister of Iraq"--TASS headline]

[Text] Baghdad, March 22, TASS--Iraq's Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi suggested to the United Nations to convene a special session to discuss the Palestine problem. The Iraqi minister is of the opinion that the need to discuss this question is now urgent as never before since the emergence of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In this connection Baghdad is holding next week two conferences at which foreign ministers of different Arab states will take part so as to decide on specific steps with regard to the Egyptian leadership if it signs the separate treaty with Israel.

U.S. POLICY AGGRAVATING SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST

LD221450 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1200 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "Peace or Instability in the Middle East"]

[Text] The separate deal which has been arranged between Egypt and Israel is accompanied by extremely pressing military measures, which are drowning out all the talk about peace which this deal is supposed to serve. The question is not confined to the fact that the agreement on peace, which is ready to be signed between Egypt and Israel, totally ignores the solution of the main issues of the Middle East settlement, such as the Palestinian issue and the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the occupied territories. Those who have planned this collusion and their (?supporters) the Americans are, by their actions, aggravating the situation in the Middle East. This is reflected primarily as follows:

First, the United States is planning to considerably increase its military exports to the Middle East, first and foremost of course to the Israeli enemy. After signing the agreement with Egypt, Israel will get 75 or more F-16 aircraft, at least 200 tanks, 800 armored transport vehicles, 200 guns, and 1 200 rockets of various types. Israel has not been getting such quantities of U.S. arms, not even during the direct military conflict with the Arab countries in 1973. How can one believe the empty talk about peace, when the point in question is direct preparation for war?

Second, the United States encourages the construction of new military bases. For this, the United States has allocated $3 million to Israel. In return for some arms imports, the United States obtained from Cairo approval to deploy and station the U.S. forces in the Sinai Peninsula, and to place the Egyptian Mediterranean ports at the disposal of the U.S. 6th Fleet.

Third, discussions are taking place more frankly overseas on the possibility of expanding U.S. armaments and direct military interference in the Arabian Gulf region, on the pretext of ensuring oil imports for the West. It is common knowledge that the aircraft carrier Constellation and other U.S. naval units are now in the Arabian Sea.

Fourth, the United States is pressing to speed up the signing of a new bilateral agreement with Turkey, in a manner that will enable the United States to (?strengthen) its military presence there.

Fifth, the United States intends to use the British military bases in Cyprus and also to install on the island its electronic spy equipment which has been brought from Iran.

These facts are both clear and sufficient, so much so that U.S. Senator Proxmire regards the increase of military imports to the conflicting parties as a suicidal policy. The fact is that the policy of supplying arms and other military measures only increases the danger of [word indistinct]. This leads to the following question: Why does the United States resort to such behavior? It is clear that Washington if aware that the Arab world will never agree to the capitulatory conditions of the American-Israeli peace in the Middle East, and will continue to struggle for a real and just settlement of the conflict. All the U.S. military preparations are clearly of an anti-Arab nature.

CHINA

MORE ON INTERNAL INSTABILITY IN PRC

Deng as Head of State

LD220950 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1430 GMT 21 Mar 79 LD

[Text] A wallposter appeared in Biejing yesterday proposing that Deng Xiaoping be appointed the head of state. The last chairman of the People's Republic of China, or president, Liu Shao Ji, was persecuted upon Mao Zedong's instructions in the course of the so-called Cultural Revolution. Foreign press reports say for several years the Beijing leadership had been debating the advisability of restoring that post, dispensed with by the 1975 Constitution. In late 1977, early 1978, on the eve of the first session of the Fifth National Peoples Congress, Deng was also named as a contender for the post of the head of state. However, due to a strong oppositional in [as heard] the Beijing hierarchy, the question of the restoration of the post was not broached at that session. Now Deng Xiaoping, who has fostered his positions, again seeks to get his hands on the levers of supreme power, to the restored post of the chairman of the republic. The struggle for power in the Beijing top leadership is storming on.

Charges Against 'Conspirators'

LD221704 Moscow TASS in English 1433 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

["Another Reshuffling Leadership?"--TASS headline]

[Text] Tokyo, March 22, TASS--Local journalists circles distributed information on a serious aggravation of the situation within China's leadership. According to data coming from Taipei and Beijing, several distinguished figures promoted by the "Cultural Revolution", including a number of members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, were charged with belonging to an anti-governmental group and with hatching conspiracies. Vice Chairman of the Central Committee Wang Dongxing and Wu De, above all, were mentioned among the "plotters". According to the same data, the position of Hua Guofeng was complicated or even shaken.

Informed observers so far refrain from any conclusions and appraisal of the authenticity of the above-mentioned reports. What is, however, beyond doubt is the fact of aggravation of differences inside the Chinese leadership in connection with the aggression against Vietnam and the negative consequences it caused to the internal development and the international position of China. The responsibility for taking the decision for the attack on Vietnam is placed on Deng Xiaoping. Yet, when criticizing Deng Xiaoping one must take into consideration that the military group, supporting him, maintains its decisive influence on the deployment of forces inside the leadership of the country.

JAPAN-CHINA TRADE AGREEMENT COMMENTED ON

OW220939 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 20 Mar 79 OW

[(Lushin) commentary]

[Text] Japanese and Chinese representatives began to reexamine their long-term trade agreement in Tokyo on 19 March. This station's economic observer (Lushin) writes in this regard:

The formal agenda of the meeting was put forward by the Chinese side. It proposed a reexamination of the effective time of the trade agreement signed between the two countries in February last year. It has been learned that according to the agreement, by 1985 the trade volume between the two sides should reach $20 million. According to the agreement, equipment should be provided for many industries and (?construction projects) in China, which are included in China's 10-year modernization plan. In the meantime, China should provide about 50 million tons of crude oil to Japan by 1985.

Only a year has passed, however, and China's leaders are asking Japanese firms to prolong the payment schedule because China is unable to pay for goods imported from Japan. In fact, it is the Chinese side that has violated the agreement. China has officially made known that it has decided to postpone implementing the agreement signed in December last year on complete sets of equipment to be provided by Japan, including equipment for the (?Baotou Iron and Steel Company), several petrochemical works and other industrial enterprises, at a total worth of 400 billion yen.

As we have pointed out previously, the completion of these enterprises is set by the 10-year modernization plan. So it is entirely possible that China's leaders have decided to reconsider the target date for fulfilling the whole plan. Foreign observers feel that the completion date of the plan will be postponed by at least 5 years. Explaining why China refused to have Japan go ahead with providing the equipment, Chinese Minister of Metallurgical Industry Tang Ke pointed out: The total amount to be paid according to the agreement's provisions is beyond China's foreign exchange payment ability.

However, it has been learned that China's leaders plan to buy more weapons. By foreign economists' estimates, at present weapons purchased by China account for about 85 percent of China's total imports. What is more important to China's leaders--economic construction or war preparations? Facts will speak for themselves.

PRC'S DESIRE TO MAINTAIN HONG KONG'S STATUS REPORTED

LD161179 [Editorial Report LD] Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian on 8 March 1979 publishes on page 2, under the headline "Hong Kong: Espionage Networks for the PRC", a 1,500-word article by ZARYA VOSTOKA commentator T. Gamkrelidze examining the reasons why China "is in no hurry to reunify" Hong Kong with the rest of its territory. Gamkrelidze outlines Hong Kong's economic importance to the PRC and declares that "Beijing deems it 'advisable' to preserve the British military presence there." He further asserts that the city is "China's main foreign espionage center" and suggests that "Beijing's agents" obtain, through bribes, "secret information about major companies, private and state corporations and research institutions." He concludes: "It is obvious that the PRC's leaders are interested in maintaining Hong Kong's present role--a major source of foreign currency and an important sphere for investing capital abroad. The policy of China's ruling circles with regard to Hong Kong, like their foreign policy line in Asia as a whole, is determined by Beijing's hegemonic, great-power ambitions. Ambitions which deeply alarm the world."

U.S. PAPER CITED ON EXODUS OF CHINESE FROM PRC TO HONG KONG

LD221100 Moscow TASS in English 0905 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Washington, March 22, TASS--The flow of refugees from China has increased in the past few weeks. As is reported by the newspaper Washington POST today, at least 56,000 Chinese crossed the frontier of the People's Republic of China with Hong Kong since the beginning of the current year. The number of refugees from China to Hong Kong amounted to about 100,000 in the whole of the past year. The newspaper stresses that discontent with the economic situation is the main reason of exodus of the Chinese population. The aggression, unleashed by Beijing against Vietnam, the newspaper believes, diverted China's attention from the frontiers with Hong Kong, and big numbers of Chinese, who decided to leave the country, availed themselves of this.

TEAM SPIRIT EXERCISES SHOW U.S. HOSTILITY TO PEACE IN ASIA

LD221607 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Mar 79 p 3 LD

[Maj. Yu. Gavrilov military-political commentary: "Fueling Tension"]

[Text] A dangerous militarist demonstration lasted more than 2 weeks in the south of the Korean Peninsula. Troops of the United States and the Seoul regime held joint maneuvers codenamed Team Spirit-79. This is the fourth time that similar annual military exercises have been held there, although agencies report that this year's were "on an unprecedented scale." Indeed, whereas approximately 100,000 servicemen took part in last year's Team Spirit-78 maneuvers, which simulated for 11 days "the outbreak of the second Korean war," during this year's 17-day exercises "military operations" were rehearsed by 176,000 soldiers and officers (120,000 soldiers of the Seoul Army and 56,000 American servicemen). In addition to the U.S. troops permanently stationed in South Korea, American military contingents were urgently transferred there from bases in Okinawa, the Hawaiian Islands and the United States itself. On America's side ground forces, air and missile subunits, the aircraft carrier Midway and other ships of the 7th Fleet took part in the maneuvers.

Representatives of the American-South Korean joint command set up at the end of last year declared that the purpose of the maneuvers was to verify the "effectiveness of joint defense plans" in the event of an "emergency" and also to undertake a "public demonstration of American commitments" with regard to South Korea. Seeking to somehow weaken the bread wave of world public protests in connection with this militarist demonstration, its organizers, according to the KYODO news agency, declared that they "do not wish to create the impression...that holding the Team Spirit-79 exercises could result in increased military tension."

But observers have evaluated the maneuvers precisely as a new step in that direction. They draw attention to the fact that the exercises were held against the background of Washington's revision of the plans announced earlier for the gradual withdrawal of its ground forces from South Korea. It is especially significant that the maneuvers were timed to coincide with the resumption of the dialog between the DPRK and the Seoul authorities on the question of resolving the Korean problem. And they began after the Korean United Democratic Fatherland Front Central Committee's proposal to the South Korean side to renounce all military activity hostile to the other side. It is significant that even Japanese Foreign Minister S. Sonoda, speaking in the Diet was forced to evaluate the Team Spirit-79 maneuvers as "totally inappropriate." Emphasizing the dangerous nature of the militarist demonstration in the south of the Korean Peninsula for the cause of peace in Asia, observers point out that it was carried out at a time when the situation on the Asian Continent has been aggravated by Beijing's aggressive war against Socialist Vietnam.

The name of these Team Spirit maneuvers means "spirit of comradeship." In fact they smack of the spirit of hostility on the part of certain Washington circles toward efforts aimed at insuring lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula and in Asia as a whole.

U.S.-JAPAN EXERCISE, NUCLEAR WEAPONS ON OKINAWA HIT

OW220410 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 21 Mar 79 OW

[Vinogradov commentary]

[Text] A 3-day Japan-U.S. joint air force exercise is about to conclude off Japan's Pacific coast.

Participating in this exercise are U.S. Air Force units stationed in Japan, a U.S. F-15 fighter squadron from South Korea, and Japan Air Self-Defense Force [SDF] units.

It is noteworthy that the latest Japan-U.S. joint exercise came on the heels of the large-scale U.S.-ROK maneuver Team Spirit-79. Furthermore, only 1 week before that maneuver, U.S. and Japanese air force units had carried out another joint exercise in the vicinity of U.S. Air Force bases in Japan. Joint operation tactics was the main theme of that exercise.

This kind of demonstration, held almost incessantly under the Pentagon's leadership, clearly shows that the United States is continuing to puruse a policy of increased tension in its Asia strategy. In this dangerous scheme, Japan is assigned a leading role. Japan's role is not limited to participation in joint exercises. The United States persistently demands that Japan strengthen its armed forces , expand its activities based on the Japan-U.S. military alliance, and step up its military role in the Far East and Asia.

The USSR cannot but pay attention to the fact that the increasingly frequent joint exercises are being held under the shopworn, false "Soviet threat" slogan. The Japan Defense Agency takes every available opportunity to accuse the Soviet Union of stepping up military activities in the Far East. Whenever it spots a Soviet ship, it makes exaggerated reports. In most cases, however, it turns out to be a fishing boat or civilian plane. At the same time, Japanese newspapers give extremely limited coverage to reports concerning U.S.-Japan exercises which, in fact, are keying up tension in the area.

Meanwhile, various reports point to the possibility of nuclear weapons being stored at U.S. military bases in Japan. For example, the KYODO news agency recently reported remarks by a U.S. Marine Corps spokesman in Okinawa. According to that report, the spokesman told a KYODO correspondent that the 3d Marine Division has two 8-inch M-110 guns which can be equipped with nuclear warheads. Judging from a report submitted to Congress by the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, the KYODO report says, it can be concluded that nuclear warheads exist in Okinawa.

This kind of report, not to mention the frequent exercises involving SDF units, clearly indicates who indeed is responsible for increasing tension in the Far East.

SOVIET FISHERIES MINISTER MEETS JAPANESE FISHERY OFFICIAL

OW221339 Tokyo KYODO in English 1259 GMT 22 Mar 79 OW

[Text] Moscow, Mar 22 KYODO--Iwao Arakatsu, president of the Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation, paid a courtesy call on Soviet Fisheries Minister Vladimir Kamentsev Thursday at the latter's office. The two exchanged views on current Japan-Soviet fishery talks now being held here to decide catch quotas and fishing grounds for Japanese salmon fishing in 1979.

This was the first meeting Kamentsev had held with a Japanese visitor in Moscow since taking his post last February, replacing Aleksandr Ishkov who retired.

During the meeting, Kamentsev stressed that all pending issues between the two nations should be settled through diplomatic negotiations if the two parties entered negotiations with the spirit of sincerity and reciprocity.

COMMENT, REPORTAGE ON COUNTERREVOLUTION IN AFGHANISTAN

External Backing

LD221205 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 79 p 5 LD

[A. Petrov article: "Rebuff to the Forces of Reaction and Imperialism"]

[Text] Afghanistan is one of those countries whose development in terms of productive forces was held up for many decades by feudal systems. A tiny handful of wealthy men lived parasitically by exploiting the poverty, illiteracy and lack of rights of the overwhelming majority of the population. Both the feudal rulers and their minions hoped this would always be the case. The April revolution last year opened up before the Afghan people the path of independent national development and radical socioeconomic transformations. In a brief period the Government and People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan have taken a number of important steps in the interests of the working masses. These include measures to develop industry, improve the health system, eliminate illiteracy, create peasant cooperatives and resolve the problems of the minor ethnic groups inhabiting Afghanistan.

The land reform has been the most important gain for the people, of whom the overwhelming majority--over 80 percent--are peasants. Almost 100,000 families have received free land and water. The successes of the people's power are engendering fierce resistance and ferocious malice among the internal reactionaries, exploiting classes and external enemies of Democratic Afghanistan.

The establishment of the new system in Democratic Afghanistan and the overcoming of its centuries-old backwardness are of themselves no simple matter. People must be convinced that they themselves have become the creators of their own future, that henceforth the fruit of their labor belongs to the people and will be used for the benefit of the people. But problems which are being deliberately created by the enemies of the revolution and by internal and external reaction are adding to the domestic complications.

"The April revolution," N.M. Taraki, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA], has said, "was indeed not to the liking of many exploiters in Afghanistan and the countries of the region. They are leveling all sorts of accusations against us and resorting to lies which are completely without foundation."

Lately, the forces of counterrevolution hostile to the people's system, relying on outside support, have become more active. They have made desperate attempts to halt progress and restore the feudal way of life destroyed by the people. The choice of time was not fortuitous. Reaction is seeking to prevent the peasant from sowing grain on the field which is now his own land and from driving livestock to the pasture which the revolution has given him. In other words, they want to prevent the people tasting the real fruits of the revolution and to deprive them of their confidence in the future.

The emigree opponents of the people's power have settled in a number of states bordering Afghanistan where, with support and generous financial aid from imperialism, centers have been set up to train bands of saboteurs and terrorists and send them into the DRA. Reporting on attempts to cobble together a counterrevolutionary bloc, the New York TIMES writes: "The leaders of the Afghan emigrees are seeking to unite the uncoordinated and sporadic resistance to the new government in Kabul in the hope ultimately of turning it into a widespread armed rebellion."

An important part in organizing antigovernment actions is allocated to the reactionary representatives of the clergy and to groupings stationed outside Afghanistan--above all in Pakistan--such as the Muslim Brotherhood frequently acting under the mask of the Islamic Party of Afghanistan, which are fighting for the restoration of the monarchy in the country. The forces of counterrevolution are trying to speculate on the religious feelings and sentiments of the Afghan Muslims and seek to exploit the fact that there are many believers in the country who are prepared to obey almost blindly the orders of the mullahs.

The republic's leadership respects the citizens' right to religious freedom. The Afghan population is guaranteed the opportunity freely to perform religious rites. Naturally, the government is preventing religion from being used for subversive, illegal purposes. "We are not afraid of those who, using Islam to conceal their antipopular nature, try in fact to commit crimes against Muslims," DRA Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister H. Amin has stated. "The Afghan Muslims and the entire working people are taking part in exposing these subversive elements."

The intrigues of internal reaction are being incited by the opponents of an independent Democratic Afghanistan in neighboring states and by the forces of imperialism which have resorted to direct interference in the affairs of the Afghan people, the provocation of internal disorders and demonstrations against the people's power and the giving of military support to the counterrevolution.

Armed saboteurs and bands are being dispatched into Afghan territory. Thus, for instance, bandit elements have penetrated into Konarha Province from Pakistan and have traded fire with Afghan Government forces. Pro-Chinese elements have been operating in the district center of Fahar. In Herat the population was handed in 2,000 weapons of strictly non-Afghan origin.

The inflammatory statements of support for the Afghan Muslims issuing from Iran and Pakistan obviously do not benefit the good-neighborly relations among the countries of this region and indeed do not accord with the interests of the peoples themselves of Pakistan and Iran. "The propaganda against the Afghan Government," a press statement issued by a group of Pakistani political and trade union figures stated, "may cause tension on the border. The Afghan Government is taking progressive steps aimed at improving the position of the poor strata of the population. The reactionary elements do not like this. Any popular movement is not to the taste of those seeking to oppose the real development of events."

Anti-Afghan propaganda from the United States, Britain, the FRG and Egypt and a number of other reactionary Arab regimes has been noticeably stepped up recently. Acting, to all appearances, in accordance with a common plan, these countries are spreading false rumors and specially prepared items of disinformation with a view to encouraging the counter-revolutionary forces with the DRA to take vigorous actions. As has already been reported, Beijing is acting with them. Cutting off all aid to the DRA within the framework of previously agreed bilateral cooperation programs, China has switched to rendering direct aid to Afghanistan's antigovernment forces. Its advisers are training the terrorist groups being sent into Afghanistan from abroad. Beijing is instructing various nationalist groups and particularly Maoist groups within Afghanistan and inciting them to hostile actions.

The plots of reaction, imperialism and Maoism against the forces of peace and progress are no longer sporadic occurrences. They are alien to the principles of peace, detente, respect for sovereignty and noninterference in other people's affairs. These plots are rejected by the peoples. They are resolutely opposed by the Afghan people who have on their side the sympathies of all their real friends and the support and aid of the Soviet Union, linked with friendly Afghanistan by relations of cooperation and true solidarity.

Accusations Against Iran, Pakistan, PRC

LD221150 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2330 GMT 21 Mar 79 LD

[Nikolay Khokhlov commentary]

[Text] As has already been reported, forces hostile to the popular system in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan have become more active in the last few days. Relying on outside support, they have been making desperate attempts to halt progress in the republic and restore the feudal way of life destroyed by the people.

The counterrevolutionary actions which have taken place against the republic in a number of areas in the country--in particular in the major city of Herat--are not entirely unexpected, writes Nikolay Khokhlov, a writer on international affairs. The law of class struggle is inexorable. It manifests itself everywhere that the popular masses rise to crush the old regime and try to establish a truly new system free from exploitation. There are many examples of this, and we have observed them and continue to do so in the countries of Africa, Latin America and Asia.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has more than once warned the people of the dangerous actions of the internal reactionary forces. What is extremely dangerous is that the internal counterrevolutionary elements find support for their criminal actions from various adventurists outside Afghanistan. In this particular case, we are talking about Pakistan, Iran and China. Most interested of all in the complication of the situation is Beijing which, as has already been convincingly demonstrated by its adventure in Vietnam and more recently in Laos, is prepared to engage in another ruinous game for the same notorious aims of hegemonism and direct servility to the imperialist West. There is still time for the authorities in Pakistan and Iran to realize fully the fatal consequences of Beijing's goal of unleashing a purely internal conflict in Afghanistan and to keep it from growing into a regional or even international one.

The Kabul government has expressed readiness to discuss all the controversial problems with Pakistan and Iran in a peaceful and goodneighborly fashion. However, also behind the events in Afghanistan are transatlantic circles who with unusual haste have launched a malicious slander campaign against the revolutionary measures of the Kabul government. As one might have expected, As-Sadat's Egypt immediately joined in this campaign.

The situation remains uneasy in a number of areas of Afghanistan. But the latest reports from Kabul testify to the complete resolve of the republic's authorities to overcome the attempts at a revolt and their readiness to restore a normal life for the population, which supports the course of the further consolidation of revolutionary gains in the country.

Situation in Herat

LD222076 Moscow TASS in English 2025 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Herat, March 22, TASS--TASS correspondents Yuriy Kornilov and Ravil Musin report: Life is returning to normal in this, Afghanistan's third biggest city. Enterprises have resumed work, shops are open, city transport is running. Participants in mass rallies held at plants and factories and right in the streets, ardently approve and welcome actions by the authorities, whereby they firmly suppressed a rebellion of counterrevolutionary forces in Herat.

Though the rebels, who used the influence of the reactionary part of the priesthood, were able to involve part of the population in their adventure and at first managed to capture the barracks, the arsenal and foodstores, the overwhelming majority of the local population firmly and at once came out vigorously in defence of the revolution, against the criminal actions of the counterrevolutionary agents, the TASS correspondents were told by the Governor Herat Province Hafizullah Lihzad. It was the support of the population and the lack of any firm base by the counterrevolutionaries that facilitated the quick and successful suppression of the rebellion.

Now, with the rebellion suppressed, it is confirmed once again that the traces of counterrevolution lead outside Afghanistan. Documents found on some of the captured rebels irrefutably indicate that specially trained provocateurs and bandits were sent to Herat under the guise of residents of this city from the territory of neighboring countries with the assignment of firing-up religious strife in every way, causing disorders, obstructing the implementation of revolutionary transformations--and all that to pleace foreign reactionaries. Large quantities of foreign currency, including American dollars and British pounds were taken from the rebels. Secret caches were discovered in one district of the city containing Chinese-and American-made weapons. All this indicates once again who and what kind of forces are coming out against the Afghani revolution, the governor said. The conspiracy in Herat and its vicinity, hatched as a result of interference from abroad, has been completely frustrated.

Afghan Government Statement

LD222212 Moscow TASS in English 2145 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, March 22, TASS--The revolutionary and patriotic people knows that the people's and revolutionary state of Afghanistan declared clearly, at once following the victory of the liberation revolution, that Afghanistan wants good relations with neighbouring countries, wants peace in the region and throughout the world, and strives to implement its revolutionary programmes in the interests of the toiling people of the country. This is said in a DRA Government statement published here today. "Unfortunately, facts indicate that international reaction, imperialism and left-wing extremists", the document nots, "by weaving conspiracies and resorting to all kinds of maneuvers, are putting obstacles in the path of our revolution." The statement says that, following the victory of the April revolution, groups of traitors to the motherland, either having seen that their interests were threatened, or from fear before the people, fled beyond the country's boundaries under the wing of their masters. Instructors from some imperialist militarist countries and left-extremist aggressors are giving them considerable assistance, equipping them with arms, placing at their disposal propaganda means. It is by leaning on this support, that they do not stop their openly aggressive interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

The statement goes on to say that "the Government of Pakistan, which claims to want friendship and good relations with the DRA, despite numerous contacts with it by the Afghani authorities, failed to put an end to the activities of these elements. Moreover, such activities became more active."

The DRA Government urges the Afghani people to deal a crushing blow at the enemies of the country and of the April revolution, to do everything for the enemies, under whatever guise they appear and wherever they hide, to be exposed and immediately handed over to the authorities.

Taraki's New Year Address

LD222100 Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] In Kabul, Prime Minister Nur Mohammed Taraki has addressed the nation to mark the Afghan New Year. He condemned the schemes of reactionary circles plotting against the government. Taraki also accused some countries of trying to interfere in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. He urged the people to rebuff the reactionary plots. Meanwhile, meetings are being held all over the country to protest against foreign interference and to express support for the government's revolutionary course. Now a comment from our observer Viktor Tiktorov:

The working people express their determination to uphold the gains of the April revolution of 1978. These gains are considerable indeed. The revolution paved the way for broad democratic transformations in the social and economic spheres. It gave land to [words indistinct] farmers and farm laborers and put an end to the oppression of 22 million people in the rural areas. The nation declared a sacred war on illiteracy. Seven hundred thousand people are now learning to read and write. The government proclaimed freedom of conscience and religious worship to be one of the principles of its policy.

These reforms have met with strong resistance of feudals and the national bourgeoisie, which lost their privileges. Many of these elements emigrated to neighboring countries. Particularly active is a reactionary organization which calls itself the Muslim Brothers. With the financial support and arms they are getting from the imperialist powers in the West and also from China, the counterrevolutionaries are preparing plots against people's government, and are sending armed bands to Afghanistan. Recently, the bands operating in the areas that border on Pakistan and Iran staged a rebellion in Herat, one of the major Afghan cities. Pro-Chinese elements staged provocations in the district center of Farkhar.

The Afghan leader, Nur Mohammed Taraki, pointed out that Afghanistan does not interfere in other countries' internal affairs. It pursues a policy of nonalinement and peace. But some countries are trying to create difficulties for Afghanistan. Most Afghan reactionaries have taken shelter in Pakistan. They set up bases in Peshawar and other regions, obviously not without the knowledge of the Pakistani authorities. Subversive agents and groups of terrorists are trained at these bases before they are sent to Afghanistan. The training is supervised by Chinese instructors. Special services in the United States and Britain are also involved in training rebels and coordinating their actions. Egypt and some other reactionary Arab regimes likewise help the Afghan counterrevolutionaries. These schemes by the enemies of Democratic Afghanistan are upsetting peace and tranquility in the region. Good neighborly relations suffer.

What is more, harm is also done to the people of Pakistan and Iran. Afghanistan is a neighbor of the Soviet Union. Over decades there have been friendly and equal relations between the two countries. The Afghan revolution only cemented these relations. The Soviet Union, which is committed to the principles of peaceful coexistence between states, is opposed to any interference in the Afghan revolution. The Soviet people side with Democratic Afghanistan.

Alleged CIA Involvement

LD231224 Moscow TASS in English 1228 GMT 23 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, March 23, TASS--The Afghan public has received with profound satisfaction the report on the rout of the counter-revolutionary forces which infiltrated into the territory of Afghanistan and which tried to cause disorders in the area of Herat. Mass meetings are taking place in all towns and areas of the country. The participants in the meetings unanimously approve of the authorities' measures to stop the designs of counter-revolutionary elements instigated and masterminded from outside.

It is no secret to anyone now what circles constitute the backbone of counter-revolution: These are the feudal aristocracy, who were deprived by the revolution of its wealth and privileges, these are reactionary clergymen, teaming up with feudals, TASS correspondents have been told by Abdol Kayum Nurzai, member of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, member of the Revolutionary Council, deputy minister of information and culture of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

These elements have support from outside, he stressed. Gangs of armed counter-revolutionaries are sent into our country from enighbouring Pakistan, obviously not without knowledge of the Pakistani authorities. A group of reactionary emigrants, thrown by the revolution out of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, is known to be active in Pakistan. These are feudals and reactionaries, who for many years were openly engaged in impudent plunder of the Afghan people.

It is no secret, said Abdol Kayum Nurzai, that the forces of imperialism, particularly the Central Intelligence Agency of the United States, are weaving a conspiracy against the Afghan revolution. Noteworthy is the fact that in the recent time Western propaganda, the British BBC, [as received] for instance, intensified the circulation of obviously instigative versions on "persecution of Moslem clergy", which allegedly takes place in Afghanistan.

In line with the designs of these Western reactionary circles are the actions of the Beijing rulers who also try to undermine the Afghan revolution. The Maoist groups, acting specifically in the Badakhshan Province, are seeking to fan up nationalistic and separatist sentiments, are spreading lies on purposes and tasks of the revolution, are discrediting in every way the accomplishments of the Afghan people after the April revolution. Chinese instructors participate in training terrorists, bandits and provocateurs sent in from the outside.

Iranian, Pakistani Denials

LD221456 Moscow TASS in English 1446 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

["Subversive Actions Against Afghanistan"--TASS headline]

[Text] Tehran, March 22, TASS--Iran's Foreign Ministry reported that the Iranian Government had not sent armed units or contingents to Afghanistan, that it knows nothing about penetration of such units or Iranian armed personnel in Afghanistan across the Iranian border.

Islamabad, March 22, TASS--Pakistan's Foreign Ministry issued a statement that it does not have information confirming a report on the use of Pakistan's territory for interference in internal affairs of Afghanistan or for other activity that is not in keeping with the maintenance of goodneighbourly relations between the two countries.

Meanwhile, there exist new data confirming the opposite, namely that main camps for training gangs of saboteurs and terrorists and main operational bases from which plotters and counterrevolutionary elements operate against Democratic Afghanistan are concentrated in Pakistan's territory.

PAKISTANI POLITICIAN WARNS AGAINST SUPPORTING AFGHAN 'REACTIONARIES'

LD212312 Moscow TASS in English 2217 GMT 21 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Karachi, March 21, TASS--G.B. Bisenjo, a former governor of Baluchistan Province and one of the leaders of the National Democratic Party of Pakistan, said that the reactionary elements that have fled from Afghanistan are using the territory of Pakistan for false and malicious propaganda and subversive activities against the present government of Afghanistan. Being swept away by the powerful wave of the national-democratic revolution, these social and political outcasts from Afghanistan and their exponents in Pakistan are conducting a loud propaganda war against Democratic Afghanistan. Their subversive actions can not only poison relations between our two neighbouring states but also create a threat to the security of our borders, jeopardise our internal stability.

As reported by the APP agency, G.B. Bisenjo warned those Pakistani politicians, who are recklessly supporting enemies of the Afghan people, that they are playing with fire. Instead of directing all their energies at the solution of the aggravating socio-economic problems of the people of Pakistan, G.B. Bisenjo said, these politicians are using all their energy to undermine the achievements of the national-democratic revolution of the fraternal people of Afghanistan and are pushing Pakistan to the brink of a precipice. I again draw the attention of Pakistan's military government to the consequences of the actions of these obscurantists and call on it to curb their dangerous adventures so as to prevent the origination of a danger to security in our region. We Pakistanis, in particular Baluchis and Pathans, will resolutely resist all attempts to push us to the brink of a precipice.

MORE ON THAI PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICIAL VISIT

21 March Dinner Addresses

BK220113 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 22 Mar 79 BK

[Text] It has been reported from Moscow that official talks were held yesterday at 1600 in the Kremlin. The Soviet officials participating in the talks were Premier Kosygin, the foreign minister, the minister of foreign trade and other officials concerned. The Thai side consisted of the prime minister and the ministers who accompanied him on the trip. During the talks the prime minister thanked the Soviet premier, government and people for their fine reception. The prime minister emphasized that the purpose of his visit is to meet and exchange views with important Soviet officials in order to further promote Thai-Soviet relations. The prime minister stressed that Thailand's policy is to establish friendly relations with all countries irrespective of their economic and social systems, to adopt a neutral stance, not to interfere in other countries' internal affairs and to see that conflicts between countries are solved through peaceful means. This is ASEAN's policy.

The Soviet premier then thanked the Thai prime minister and his party for coming to the Soviet Union. He said the Soviet Union regards the visit by these high-level Thai officials as very important and is pleased to exchange views with the visitors. The Soviet premier said he agreed with and supported the Thai prime minister's opinions. The Soviet Union itself always seeks to promote peace. It has proposed curbing the arms race and banning nuclear weapons. However, this proposal has received no response. These are the ways in which the Soviet Union has worked to promote peace.

The two sides then exchanged views on political, economic and trade matters and on ways to promote cooperation. The talks during yesterday's first meeting were merely an exchange of ideas; no agreements were reached. The meeting ended at 1840.

At 1900 the Soviet Government hosted a dinner at the Kremlin in honor of the prime minister and his party. On the occasion Soviet Premier Kosygin said: This is our first opportunity to receive the head of the Thai Government, who is on an official visit to our country. This is an historical event in Soviet-Thai relations and it shows that the governments of both countries want to strengthen mutual contacts and find ways to expand equitable cooperation which will lead to promoting greater and clearer mutual understanding. We hope that the Thai prime minister's visit will contribute to the achievement of these objectives.

The Soviet premier continued: Our contacts began over 100 years ago. The presence of Soviet ships near the Thai coast have no aggressive intentions against the territory of any nation. Nor is it meant to pressure any country into accepting unfair treaties. Its intentions are peaceful. Soviet-Thai relations have always been smooth. Russia supported Thailand's struggle to maintain its independence. The limited scope of relations between the two countries has not been because of a lack of opportunity or desire, but more likely due to the repercussions Southeast Asian countries have experienced from outside.

The Soviet premier said that the Soviet Union is ready to expand cooperation with Thailand in various activities, including curbing the international arms race. He said: We see a foundation for this in the closeness or concurrence of the two countries' stances on a number of important international issues, particularly the consolidation of detente, curbing of the arms race, banning tests of nuclear weapons, the nonuse of force in international relations and the strengthening of international security.

The Soviet premier said the Soviet Union regards with understanding ASEAN's idea of the creation of a zone of peace in Southeast Asia. It welcomes statements by leaders of ASEAN countries expressing their desire to promote economic and cultural cooperation and assuring that ASEAN has no military character. It wished those countries success in resuming the activities of the Committee for Developing the Meking River, which is made up of Thailand, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

In conclusion, the Soviet premier invited the guests to toast the Thai king, the prime minister and party and the Thai people.

In his reply, the Thai prime minister said he was honored and very pleased that the Soviet Government had invited him, his wife and party to pay an official visit. He expressed thanks for the warm and hospitable reception accorded him since his arrival in beautiful Moscow, and thanked the Soviet premier for his speech which was permeated with good will and friendship. He said the honor extended him demonstrated the sincere feelings of the Soviet Government and people for the Thai Government and people.

The prime minister said that Thailand is situated in a region that has undergone great changes during the past decade. He said: People in certain parts of this region face extreme hardships. Therefore, his government has tried its best to implement a policy of peaceful coexistence and to maintain friendly relations and constructive cooperation with near and distant countries irrespective of their political, economic or social systems. It is determined to transform Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality, which will contribute to the happiness of the Thai people and all people in this region. The Thai Government is very concerned about the current situation in Indochina as a result of the fighting and conflicts taking place in countries which border Thailand.

The Prime Minister said he wanted to take this opportunity to reiterate that the Thai Government and people are independent. The Thai Government will strictly maintain a neutral stance and hopes all sides adhere to the principle of peaceful coexistence, particularly the principles of noninterference in other countries' internal affairs and of mutual nonaggression. The Thai Government does not want to see the conflicts expand, which will seriously endanger the entire region. The Thai Government has often stated that it wants to see conflicts, wherever they may occur, solved peacefully. Thailand will do everything possible to create conditions conducive to peace and stability in Southeast Asia. In this it will cooperate with other countries and international organizations to find ways to prevent the escalation or expansion of such conflicts.

The prime minister said he was pleased to see that Soviet-Thai relations have developed in almost every field. Besides trade, contacts between people in cultural, sports, mass media, literature and tourist fields have progressed satisfactorily. Representatives of various fields have been exchanged regularly, contributing to the promotion of mutual understanding between the people of the two countries.

The prime minister then invited the guests to toast His Excellency Brezhnev, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet; Premier Kosygin; and the Soviet people.

22 March Activities

LD221730 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Thai Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamaman visited the Moscow city Soviet Executive Committee today.

Promyslov, chairman of the Executive Committee, acquainted the guest and those accompanying him with the activity of the soviet of people's deputies, the municipal economy and the plans and prospects for the further development of Moscow.

Taking part in the talks was Kiselev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Minister.

Afterward the prime minister visited the Moscow underground railway.

Meeting With Brezhnev

LD221703 Moscow TASS in English 1641 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 22, TASS--Today General Secretary of the CPSU CCO President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev received in the Kremlin Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, General Kriangsak Chamanan, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit.

During the talk, which passed in a friendly atmosphere, they discussed the state of Soviet-Thai relations and prospects for their development. The desire to extend and strengthen Soviet-Thai cooperation along many directions was expressed on both sides, for this would serve the interests of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Thailand, the cause of peace on the Asian Continent.

When examining international problems special attention was given to the latest events in Southeast Asia. The Soviet Union, Leonid Brezhnev stated, regards with understanding the efforts by the peoples of that area to strengthen their sovereignty and security. Reliable security in Asia must be based on such principles as the inadmissibility of the use of force or the threat of force in relations between states, strict respect for the independence and sovereignty, inviolability of borders, noninterference in internal affairs, broad development of economic and other ties based on complete equality and mutual benefit.

The deepening of detente processes there, development of truly good-neighbourly cooperation among the states of the continent would be in the vital interests of all Asian peoples and of universal peace, too. Loyal to its peace-loving policy, the Soviet Union will go on making a constructive contribution to this important matter.

The Soviet Union, Leonid Brezhnev noted, proceeds from the concept that at present possibilities are being created for developing stable relations between all countries in Indochina, based on friendship, mutual trust and goodneighbourhood. It fully supports Socialist Vietnam which wants to live in peace with Thailand and all states, its neighours--the countries of Southeast Asia.

Briefing to Reporters

BK230753 Bangkok World in English 23 Mar 79 pp 1, 3 BK

[By Yuwadi Thanyasiri in Moscow]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan told Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev last night that Thailand could not recognise the Heng Samrin regime in Cambodia until "we are sure it has the support of the people."

He said: "Recognition will be like taking sides. We wish to remain neutral."

Thailand will hold consultations with its ASEAN partners before deciding on recognition, he later told Thai reporters accompanying him on his Moscow visit.

In his 55-minute meeting with the president who is also secretary general of the Soviet Communist Party, General Kriangsak also said that Thailand "does not want foreign troops present" in neighbouring countries. This is part of Thailand's policy of upholding the principles of neutrality, independence, and noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries, General Kriangsak said.

The prime minister also reported that he had denied to the Soviet president and other Russian officials allegations about Thailand assisting the Pol Pot forces in Cambodia. "Moscow now understands this matter well," he added. He also told Mr Brezhnev that Thailand is not an enemy of Russia.

In the talks at the Kremlin, the two leaders discussed ASEAN. "The prospects are brighter now for Soviet recognition of ASEAN as an economic cooperation bloc," he said. Russia "will promote bilateral relations with the ASEAN countries while its leaders hold consultations among themselves about recognising ASEAN as a bloc," Gen Kriangsak said. Asked when Moscow will recognise ASEAN as a bloc, he said: "Let's not hurry them. Give them time. A dialogue between Russia and ASEAN could take place in the future."

The prime minister disclosed that he had invited Prime Minister Kosygin to visit Thailand. No dates have yet been fixed.

In the Kremlin talks, Mr Brezhnev and General Kriangsak exchanged views on the general world situation, with emphasis on Southeast Asia and efforts to restore peace and stability in the region. Also discussed were promotion of trade relations and the possibilities of scientific and technological cooperation.

General Kriangsak speaking to Thai reporters at the Thai Embassy a few hours after his meeting with Mr Brezhnev said: "The visit has given us the opportunity for reaching understanding on many matters. For example, the Soviets did not understand much about border maps in Southeast Asia and we gave them explanations." He did not elaborate.

Asked whether Thailand asked for purchase of Soviet oil, General Kriangsak said: "We did not. We did not come here to do so. Besides, transport is difficult. We are getting oil from ASEAN countries."

Asked whether he brought up the matter of the Soviet veto in the United Nations Security Council against the ASEAN resolution proposing withdrawal of foreign forces from Vietnam and Cambodia, the prime minister said, "I didn't want to because it could affect the atmosphere of the talks. On this matter we have differences of opinion. I came here to promote cordial relations." He added, "We told them we are for regional peace. The USSR said they are, too. In fact, there are many similarities between our policies."

Mr Brezhnev asked the prime minister to convey his best wishes to his majesty the king.

Bolshoy Performance

LD222300 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] This evening, Kriangsak Chamanan, the Thai prime minister, attended a performance of Mozart and Salieri and Iolanthe at the Bolshoy Theater of the USSR. Together with the guest in the central box, which was bedecked with the state flags of Thailand and the Soviet Union, was Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. The state anthems of the two countries were played before the start of the performance.

NOVOYE VREMYA PUBLISHES ARTICLES ON THAILAND

Thailand's New Policy Orientation

LD211400 Moscow TASS in English 1340 GMT 21 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 21, TASS--The activity of the Thai Government aimed at normalizing the political situation in Southeast Asia is meeting with a positive response in Asia and throughout the word, writes the weekly NEW TIMES. It carries an article by Ivan Shchedrov who recently visited Thailand. He says that with the advent to power of the government of General Kriangsak Chamanan, commander in chief of the armed forces, the situation in Thailand has changed. The new government announced its refusal to follow the anti-national foreign policy of the old authorities and its intention to pursue a policy of peaceful coexistence, goodneighbourly relations and cooperation with Southeast Asian countries. It also came out for better relations with the socialist states.

In a comparatively short period of time, the government of Kriangsak Chamanan made certain progress in this direction despite opposition from the opponents of detente and peaceful coexistence who are still to be found among local influential political and business circles.

The NEW TIMES says that during the recent events in Indochina the Government of Thailand expressed itself against any interference in the internal affairs of Kampuchea and the use of Thailand's territory for provocative activities against that country. Chamanan said that his country favours a peaceful just settlement of the Sino-Vietnamese conflict.

At the same time Beijing is trying to sow discord between the socialist states of Indochina and the developing countries, members of the ASEAN.

Local political circles attach great importance to the official visit of the prime minister of Thailand to the Soviet Union, Shchedrov goes on.

We are for the development of relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries on an equal, mutually beneficial basis, the head of the Thai Government Kriangsak Chamanan said to Ivan Shchedrov. We have good prospects and opportunities for developing trade and economic ties. Thailand is interested in peace and this is one more aspect of problems of mutual interest, he said. There is every ground for hope, the prime minister said in conclusion, for a successful development of Thai-Soviet relations. There are no outstanding disputed problems between our states, he stressed.

History of USSR-Thai Relations

LD230658 Moscow TASS in English 0613 GMT 23 Mar 79 LD

["Concerning Kriangsak Chamanan's Visit to USSR"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 22, TASS--The NEW TIMES weekly says that the relations between the Soviet Union and Thailand have longstanding traditions. The latest issue carries a long article on Thailand, its foreign policy and relations with the Soviet Union. Commenting on the relations between the two countries, NEW TIMES emphasizes the great importance attached in Thailand to the official visit to the Soviet Union of Kriangsak Chamanan, the prime minister of Thailand.

A Russian diplomatic mission was opened in Bangkok in May 1898, the weekly says. Some time later it was converted into an embassy.

Thailand was the first state in Southeast Asia with which the USSR established diplomatic (?relations) in March 1941. World War Two prevented the development of commercial and economic relations. In the brief period of peace, however, an agreement was signed on the purchase of the first consignment of raw rubber in Thailand. It was carried by Soviet ships to Vladivostok just before the outbreak of war and was very useful for the land of the soviets at that crucial hour.

"Early in 1948, the first Soviet diplomatic mission, headed by S.S. Nemochina, arrived in Bangkok. For many years the development of Soviet-Thai relations was hampered by the policy of Thailand's ruling quarters that pursued a course of lopsided orientation on the United States."

"The positive changes in that country after the spring of 1975 created favourable conditions for the establishment of Thailand's economic relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries," NEW TIMES continues. "But in 1977, all countries of the socialist community accounted for not more than two per cent of Thailand's foreign trade. Last year, Thailand signed trade agreements with Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and other socialist countries. They envisaged reciprocal most-favoured-nation treatment, the principle which underlay the first Soviet-Thai trade agreement, signed way back in 1970.

"Today, one can already speak of positive changes in commercial and economic contacts between the USSR and Thailand."

"The Soviet Union substantially increased purchases of rubber, Thailand's staple export. The Soviet foreign trade organization Tractoroexport and the Thai company Minsen Machinery have been successfully cooperating for many years.

"The positions of those representatives of the state sector, the national bourgeoisie, small peasants and artisan sectors, which advocate the further expansion of commercial and economic relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, are strengthening in Thailand.

MORE ON PRC'S AGGRESSION AGAINST SRV

Lang Son Destruction

LD222012 Moscow TASS in English 1956 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, March 22, TASS--Chinese troops are still holding a part of the Vietnamese territory in northern provinces of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Chinese forces continue making raids across the border into the territory of Vietnam and seize some localities.

It is reported that on March 21 Chinese troops totalling several regiments were staying in 17 localities and three districts of the territory of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. In the majority of localities, they held positions up to 500-1,000 metres deep into the Vietnamese territory and in the Cao Bang Province 10-20 kilometres deep.

The VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY cites facts attesting to wholesale crimes of Chinese aggressors on Vietnamese soil. Communications were destroyed in six provinces of Vietnam, huge damage was caused to industry and agriculture of northern districts. Unleashing the aggression against Vietnam, Beijing pursued the aim of undermining Vietnam's economy and hampering its socialist development, the agency writes.

On March 20, members of the diplomatic corps in Hanoi made a trip to the town of Lang Son out of which Chinese aggressors were driven.

They saw on the spot the consequences of the Chinese aggression. Practically all economic and cultural facilities in the town, most of the schools and hospitals and all the libraries were destroyed in Lang Son. About 90 percent of houses were destroyed. And the property of the population, including domestic belongings, was looted. Even tiles and window frames were taken into China. More than ten thousand head of cattle was driven to China.

Diplomats saw for themselves that the town was subjected to methodical destruction and that mines were planted in the town by Chinese aggressors before they were driven out of it. The overwhelming majority of diplomats described Beijing's crime as a manifestation of barbarity. They were staggered by what they saw. It should be noted that representatives of practically all embassies and missions accredited in Hanoi, except for the Chinese, took part in the trip.

SRV on 29 March Talks

LD222030 Moscow TASS in English 2009 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, March 22, TASS--Our government's stand in the matter of starting negotiations with the Chinese side is a reasonable and logical position, writes today editorially the paper NHAN DAN, the organ of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam. China's ruling circles have unleashed an aggressive war against Vietnam and it is they who ought to put an end to the aggression for all time, must immediately, completely and unconditionally withdraw all their troops to the other side of the historically shaped borderline. They must unswervingly respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam.

The paper notes that Vietnam's goodwill is absolutely clear: By availing ourselves of the right to repel an aggression in the name of defending the country, we still firmly adhere to the course of solving questions in relations between two countries through negotiations. However, no reply has yet been received from the Chinese side to our goodwill. Beijing rulers loudly announce "the complete withdrawal of troops to the Chinese territory," "the striving for negotiations", though their actual deeds contradict these statements.

In view of the prevailing situation, the question naturally arises: Does the Chinese side really want negotiations? It is absolutely obvious that by using violence, Beijing seeks to alter the historically shaped border-line, which the sides undertook to respect.

Once again we demonstrate our goodwill, the NHAN DAN underlines. We firmly state to the Chinese side: If the Chinese troops completely draw back onto their side of the historically shaped borderline before March 28, we then suggest starting negotiations on March 29. In this case only, negotiations are possible.

Pham Van Dong Interview

LD222250 Moscow TASS in English 2040 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

["Interview of Pham Van Dong"--TASS headline]

[Text] Havana, March 22, TASS--The Beijing leaders, who launched an aggression against Vietnam, have revealed fully to all the world the expansionist, hegemonistic and great-power character of their reactionary policy directed against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and other countries of Southeast Asia. They have revealed their essence as traitors of the interests of the socialist countries and of their own people, it was stated by Pham Van Dong, the prime minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The independent and united Socialist Vietnam, he said in an interview to the magazine BOHEMIA, constitutes a serious obstacle to the implementation of this reactionary policy. This is why the ruling circles of Beijing have unleashed an aggressive war against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. But confronted with the resolution and unbending will of the Vietnamese people and their armed forces, with the world-wide powerful movement of protest against the Chinese aggression, and also with the growing opposition of their own people, the Beijing leaders were compelled to announce a withdrawal of their troops.

The prime minister noted that the Chinese aggressors had committed incalculable brutal crimes on the land of Vietnam, but the aggressors, he stressed, have paid a high price for these crimes both in the national and international [word indistinct]. The Beijing leaders remain as before dangerous enemies of the Vietnamese people, of the entire socialist system, of the national liberation movement.

Pham Van Dong devoted much attention to the conference of heads of state and government of non-aligned countries that will be held in Havana. The non-alignment movement, he said, is playing an ever more important role in the contemporary world. The peoples of the countries affiliated to it are stepping up their struggle in defence of independence and sovereignty, for the right to be masters of their natural resources.

At the same time, imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, expansionism and hegemonism, other reactionary forces that are now in a state of crisis, are endeavouring to perpetuate their influence in the developing countries, are continuing the exploitation of the latter. For this purpose they resort to the most diverse methods, are endeavouring to split the movement, to undermine its unity. The forthcoming Havana conference, Pham Van Dong stressed, will offer an excellent opportunity to discuss the problems of the non-alignment movement and will promote without doubt the consolidation of its unity in the struggle to achieve the goals confronting it.

Soviet Volunteers

LD210948 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0323 GMT 21 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow--Under the headline "Display of Fraternal Solidarity," the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA publishes a note in which it reports that many Soviet working people have expressed a desire to travel to Vietnam as volunteers "to personally assist Vietnam, with weapons in their hands, in rebuffing the continuing Chinese aggression." Here is the full text of this item:

"Beijing's aggression against Socialist Vietnam has not ended. In spite of the Beijing leadership's statements about the withdrawal of forces from Vietnam, the Chinese aggressors are actually continuing to occupy some Vietnamese territory and are conducting military operations in certain areas.

"Faithful to its international duty, the Soviet Union is providing all-round effective assistance to the Vietnamese people in this struggle against the Beijing aggressors. At mass meetings and gatherings Soviet working people, students and servicemen are expressing support for the heroic people of Vietnam.

"The participants in the meetings angrily condemn the Chinese invaders' acts of vandalism and brutality on Vietnamese soil. They condemn the maneuvers of the Beijing leadership and their threats to perpetrate further military adventures and to annex Vietnamese lands.

"There is no slackening in the influx of letters from the working people of the Soviet Union to the SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA office and other addresses expressing ardent feelings of fraternal solidarity with the heroic Vietnamese people and disgust at the activities of the Chinese aggressors.

"In these letters many working people--workers, students and also Soviet servicemen--include appeals for permission to go as volunteers to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in order to personally assist Vietnam, with weapons in their hands, in rebuffing the continuing Chinese aggression."

FRG INTERVIEW OF CAMBODIA'S HUN SEN REPORTED

LD212254 Moscow TASS in English 2155 GMT 21 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Bonn, March 21, TASS--Implementation of the programme of the United Front for National Salvation has been started in the People's Republic of Kampuchea after the victory over the criminal clique of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary. The biggest problem now facing the republic is supplying the necessary food products for the population. The base for providing the population with food has been undermined almost completely during the regime that has been overthrown. This was said in an interview with the newspaper UNSERE ZEIT by Un Sen, member of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea responsible for foreign affairs. He said that the water and power supply for Phnom Penh is now being restored. This is a most important step for resuming the functioning of industry. The first schools were opened but they come up against big difficulties.

Touching upon the crimes committed by the Pol Pot regime, Hun Sen stressed that only two doctors remained in Kampuchea by the day of Kampuchea's liberation, that the biggest part of intelligentsia was destroyed.

The Kampuchean people has carried the revolution to complete victory, he said. We make no secret that Vietnam is giving political, moral and material assistance to our people. Rice provided by Vietnam is now saving the lives of many Kampucheans. We have longstanding common traditions. We shall be conducting fraternal cooperation in peaceful development of our countries just as in the struggle against the Beijing aggression.

[Words indistinct] of the foreign policy of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, Hun Sen said that this the policy of peace, friendship and non-alignment. We wish to maintain relations with [words indistinct] regardless of their political and social systems, on the basis of the principles of peaceful and social systems, on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence. The people's Republic of Kampuchea is for solving all differences between neighbouring states through peaceful talks on the basis of mutual respect, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. We are for goodneighbourly relations with all countries of Southeast Asia.

INDONESIAN PARLIAMENTARIAN ATTACKS 'WORLD OIL MAFIA'

LD221318 Moscow TASS in English 1123 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Jakarta, March 22, TASS--Indonesia should resolutely put an end to the domination of foreign oil monopolies in the economy of the country, said here Deputy Chairman of the Parliamentary Commissions of Economy and Finances S. Donoseputro. American, West European and Japanese corporations through oil price manipulations get much higher profits than it is stipulated in relevant agreements with the Indonesian Government. As a result, huge sums in foreign currency that Indonesia needs for national development go to vaults of the "world oil mafia", the parliamentarian stressed.

The foreign companies, according to the press, control 94 percent of oil extraction in the country and continue pressing the state oil company Petramina. The sales of Indonesian oil at international markets are also actually controlled by seven oil giants--the British Petroleum, Philips Petroleum Exploration, Shell, Exxon, Texaco, Pennzoil and California Texas Oil.

PEACE TREATY 'IDENTICAL' TO 1978 U.S.-ISRAELI DOCUMENT

LD222114 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The text of the proposed Egyptian-Israeli agreement and of the letters exchanged between the two sides concerning the so-called autonomous rule on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip has been published. This was done here [as heard] because many members of the parliamentary group of the Egyptian ruling party expressed discontent at their last meeting, at only being given a description of the agreement and its appendices while the actual text remained a secret.

Publication of the text of the Egyptian-Israeli documents throws light on the essence of the new secret American proposals which were the basis of the agreement which the American President had brought. The text of the agreement is completely identical to the document proposed by the United States and approved by Israel in December 1978. The essential provisions of the agreement remained the same. These violated the national interests of Egypt. But President as-Sadat alleges that he succeeded in having them revised.

The letters attached to the agreement which, according to the Egyptian leadership, should reflect its views have been drawn in a manner which in practice gives further weight to Israel's interpretation of the disputed provisions in the agreement.

The document, which deals with so-called autonomous rule in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, rewrites the old forms but in stronger terms. The measures contained in it--such as those of the elections to the administrative bodies, self-government and other such matters--will only be implemented in the case of agreement by both sides. This document does not speak in general about any link between the granting of autonomous rule to the Palestinians and the Egyptian-Israeli seperatist agreement, though it was alleged that some compromise agreement was reached concerning this link during the recent talks.

All this proves that the manifestations of firmness feigned by Cairo, about which there was a great deal of talk and about which a great deal has been written in recent months, were nothing but a coverup, and that further concessions were made during the American President's visit to the Middle East at Egypt's expense, in a manner harmful to Arab interests.

Meanwhile, the Israeli stance has remained unchanged. It seems that it was because of this that the Israeli prime minister declared that the signing of the agreement by no means signifies a return to the pre-June 1967 borders. It is not by accident that genuine panic spread through Egypt following Begin's statements. Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil described Begin's statements as contradictory to the bases of peace agreed upon at Camp David and undermining the atmosphere under which the agreement would be signed.

EGYPTIAN ATTEMPTS TO HIDE CONDITIONS MEETS 'SHAMEFUL END'

LD221228 Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 21 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The United States is speeding up the signing of a treaty between Egypt and Israel. The signing is due to take place next Monday in Washington. The Israeli prime minister will leave for Washington on Friday, and the Egyptian president on Saturday. More from our observer Valentin Lapin: [read by announcer]

The final preparations for the signing ceremony are being made in a nervous atmosphere due to strong opposition from the entire Arab world. In the opinion of the Western press, the United States and Egypt fear the Arab storm. To prevent it, an Arab is being made to sell the cat in the bag, that is, to pass the treaty off as a step toward an overall settlement. The Egyptian plotters have come out with their own interpretation of the text of the proposed treaty. In their opinion, Egypt defended heroically the interests of the Arabs and the Palestinians and won a diplomatic victory over Israel. The Egyptian prime minister was so carried away by the recent development that he went on to declare that the treaty will finally lead to a complete withdrawal of the Israeli troops from all the occupied territories, including the Arab part of Jerusalem. That was why the prime minister claimed the Egyptian president rejected the idea of the signing ceremony to be held in occupied Jerusalem.

No sooner had the Egyptian prime minister made his statement than the Israeli prime minister, Menahem Begin, retorted with his crude remark. Ignoring the sentiments of the Egyptian prime minister and the atmosphere that accompanied the signing of the treaty, he announced in the Knesset, the Israeli parliament, that Israel will never return to the borders that existed before June 1967. Israel will never allow the Palestinians to have state of their own on the West Bank of the River Jordan. Jerusalem, the prime minister said, single and united, will always remain Israel's capital. Menahem Begin stressed that his statement was an official answer to Prime Minister Khalil, who in his mind had distorted the conditions of the treaty.

That was a shameful end to the attempt by the Egyptian leadership to hide these conditions. That was another confirmation of the fact that on the U.S. instruction, Egypt capitulated before Israel's claims. The Arab world has long been aware of that. It does not take seriously the propaganda fuss raised by the United States and Egypt. Iraq and some other countries have urged the use of sanctions against the As-Sadat government as soon as it puts the signature to the treaty. The sanctions were worked out at an all-Arab summit in Baghdad. The leader of the PLO, Yasir 'Arafat, called for imposing an oil embargo, both on Egypt and the United States. The later, Yasir 'Arafat said, is seeking to build a military alliance consisting of the United States, Israel and Egypt in view of the downfall of the shah's regime in Iran and the disintegration of CENTO. And for the Arab world it reaffirmed its determination to work for the elimination of the consequences of the Israeli aggression and the realization of the legitimate rights of the Palestinaians. It is determined to combat U.S. interference.

IMPERIALISM PROMOTES DIVISION BETWEEN COMMUNISTS, DEMOCRATS

LD222143 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Viktor Vasilyev commentary: "The Communists Are Resolute and Determined Strugglers Against Imperialism and Zionism and for the Progress and Happiness of Peoples"]

[Text] Because of the deepening of the socialist inclination in some of the Arab countries and the emergence of the Iranian People's Party--Tudeh--to open activity, imperialist propaganda has recently intensified its slanderous campaign against the Arab and Iranian communists and tried to portray them as conspirators isolated from the people, opposed to their fundamental interests and violators of the rights of the other revolutionary parties. The methods being used in the anticommunist hysteria, now being propagated in the Middle and Near East, are blatant slander and lies concocted in the kitchen of imperialist propaganda without a word of truth.

The authors of the various forms of drivel and fabrications do not write why the workers of Casablanca elected to the Moroccan parliament Ali Ya'ta, general secretary of the Progress and Socialism Party, and they do not say one word as to why thousands of Syrian communists vote at the elections of the People's Council. For the liars to admit these logical facts means to admit the growing prestige of the communist parties in the Arab countries and the increasing confidence of the popular masses in the communists.

This confidence and this prestige have been gained by the Arab communists and the communists of the other Middle East countries through their devoted struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction. Many of the pages of the heroic struggle have been written in blood, as it was in Algeria when hundreds of Algerian communists gave their lives on the battlefields for independence, and as it was in Syria during the days of Ash-Shishaki and other butchering dictators when communists were exposed to harsh persecution. Yet they remained struggling and undeterred for the sake of their peoples' freedom and prosperity.

In the prisons of the shah's Iran and the Iraq of Nuri as-Sa'id many communists died. They were killed without being tried or investigated for only one reason, they used to speak the truth to the people and used to (?teach) them to fight for their prosperity. Ayatollah Taleqani, the well known Iranian political and religious leader, recently stated: The Iranian communists in the struggle against the despotic shah's regime suffered torture, gave their lives and suffered in prisons for long years. Ayatollah Taleqani said: For this reason, despite ideological differences, we must be united in the common struggle.

On what is this deduction based? It stems from the experience of revolutionary struggle. Wherever the revolutionary upsurge begins and whenever the people launched an assault against imperialist regimes and exploiters the tried and tested methods of terror are used. Imperialism and Zionism would like to cause a rift between the communists and revolutionary democrats and to fan continuous disputes between them. Imperialism, if possible does not spare funds to wage a blatant campaign of incitement against the communists and seeks to destroy them at the hands of their friends in the struggle against imperialism.

Whenever differences between the revolutionary democrats and communists take the form of open conflict, the national liberation revolution suffers tremendous harm and at times its achievements are exposed to the danger of being lost. The examples of Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Iran and other countries indicate this. But wherever the unity of all the democratic and national forces is strengthened the cause of the revolution successfully advances and imperialism and reaction suffer crushing defeats. The examples of the aforementioned countries also indicate this.

Revolution draws to the struggle millions of differing political ideologies. Neither the revolutionary parties nor their leaders are free from mistakes and errors in the liberation struggle. Vladimir Lenin, great leader of the world proletariat, wrote: People have not become saints because the revolution began; those working masses, repressed for hundreds of years and held back and repressed by force between the jaws of poverty and ignorance and apathy, could not carry out the revolution without mistakes. These words of Lenin are true today and fully and completely apply to the Middle and Near East. The bourgeoisie, so Lenin descriptively wrote, when it assumed power had a tested carriage and a prepared road and tested equipment, but the Arab revolutionaries--let us borrow Lenin's words--did not have carriage, road or any other tested thing.

Naturally, we find that the huge dimensions of the changes in the government and economic structure in Iran or other Arab countries create temporary difficulties and errors. But what is important, as Lenin said, is to see and to correct these errors at the proper times and to prevent these differences among the factions of the revolutionary movement from assuming the form of open disputes and clashes. This is what the imperialists and their faithful servants, the Zionists, want.

The statement of the conference of the Arab communist and labor parties held last December says: These parties regretfully place on record the presence of negative aspects in the relations among some of the parties of the national fronts which is giving rise to a dangerous split in the ranks of the national forces and which is distracting them from the struggle against the real enemy. This common cunning enemy is imperialism, Zionism and reaction. Only this enemy benefits from the repression of the communists. The conference of the Arab communist and labor parties has expressed confidence that the Arab peoples [passage indistinct].

CLASHES IN SANANDAJ, GOVERNMENT REINFORCEMENTS

LD221226 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 21 Mar 79 LD

[Text] According to news agency reports, clashes have occurred between the inhabitants of Kurdistan and government forces in Iran. These clashes became serious, especially in the city of Sanandaj and surrounding areas. The insurgents captured the radio station and invited the Kurds to struggle for self-rule to be given to them and for their national customs and traditions to be respected. As a result of these clashes, many people were killed. According to AP, Deputy Prime Minister Amir Entezam declared that the government has dispatched reenforcements to Sanandaj. These will vigorously fight against those taking part in the uprising.

MOSCOW PERSIAN SAYS TUDEH PARTY SUPPORTS ISLAMIC REPUBLIC

LD221412 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 16 Mar 79 LD

[Text] The Iranian Tudeh Party has declared that it will support the proposal for an Islamic republic in the future referendum. This was stated in a declaration issued after a meeting of the Central Committee of the party. The Tudeh Party, which for prolonged years has operated clandestinely, referred at the same time to the necessity for fundamental changes in the country.

PRC INTENSIFIES ECONOMIC LINKS WITH SOUTH AFRICA

LD222312 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 21 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Beijing is intensifying its commercial and economic links with the Republic of South Africa racist regime. According to reports in the magazine DIGEST, which is published in the Republic of South Africa, and the Johannesburg FINANCIAL MAIL, the flow of goods in both directions continues to mount. For many years now Beijing has been importing a wide range of goods from the Republic of South Africa and Rhodesia, including items of strategic importance such as copper, chrome ore and tin as well as gold, diamonds and other minerals.

Specific data about this trade are carefully concealed by both the racists and the pseudo-revolutionaries from Beijing. In order not to evoke the criticism of those developing states which are still continuing to maintain relations with China, Beijing is endeavoring in every way to conceal from the public its commercial links with racist regimes and directs its goods first to Hong Kong, from there going to southern Africa.

As admitted by the South African RAND DAILY MAIL, the expansion of Beijing's trade links with Pretoria is of considerable benefit to the Republic of South Africa, and indeed the multimillion dollar deals with China are helping both the Republic of South Africa and Rhodesia to circumvent the economic boycott of the world community.

Beijing does not restrict itself to economically strengthening the criminal racist regimes. It also acts as a political ally of the imperialist powers, which are in every way upholding the stronghold of racism and reaction in southern Africa. It is enough to recall the position of betrayal toward the national liberation movement which was taken by China during the Angolan events in 1976. At that time Beijing found itself teamed with the Republic of South Africa interventionists and CIA plotters who were attempting to remove the lawful Government of Angola from power by force, to stifle the young republic and to bring neocolonialist puppets from the National Front for the Liberation of Angola [FNLA] and the National Union of the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] splinter groupings to power in that country. Although the joint actions by racists, imperialists and Maoists in Angola at that time failed, Beijing has still not recognized the People's Republic of Angola and continues to extend support to splinter groups.

According to the London SUNDAY TELEGRAPH, UNITA gangs of cutthroats, which have found refuge with the Republic of South Africa racists and are carrying out terrorist actions against Angola from that country, are receiving arms from China. Those training mercenaries for the racists include military advisers and instructors from Beijing.

It is most noteworthy that the Chinese delegate at the UN Security Council, which is now discussing an Angolan complaint of aggression by the Republic of South Africa, is not demanding the introduction of effective sanctions against the Pretoria regime, as is being insisted upon by the majority of UN member countries. Specific facts show the true face of the loyal friend of the African peoples, which is what Beijing boastfully calls itself.

LATEST NAMIBIAN TALKS END WITHOUT RESULTS

LD222104 Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Station commentary]

[Text] The multilateral talks in New York on the future of Namibia have ended without producing any results. The talks were sponsored by five Western countries: The United States, Britain, West Germany, France and Canada. Our observer makes these remarks:

The American secretary of state, Cyrus Vance, commenting on the outcome of the 2-day meeting in New York, said their positions had come closer together but there still was a long way to go. Whose positions did the American state secretary mean? To judge by the relations between the West and South Africa, it must have been their positions that have come closer together. As far as Namibia's long way to independence is concerned, the impression is created that the West means it to be just that. All the previous talks on Namibia proceeded in much the same way. As soon as the moment came for the five Western countries to make a decisive turn towards the implementation of the United Nations plan, they would lose all initiative and let the South African regime handle the whole affair. And as far as Pretoria is concerned, it would return the Namibian problem to square one. The latest talks were no exception in this respect.

Shortly before the 15th of March, when preparations were to start in Namibia for United Nations-controlled elections (?just as) stipulated in the UN plan, the West humbly withdrew, letting the Pretoria regime torpedo the implementation of that plan. But no sooner had Pretoria done so than the West started to campaign for new talks. Because of this Western attitude, it never occurred to the Pretoria leaders to change their tough line, something which was amply demonstrated by the South African foreign minister, Roelof Botha, in New York. The number of claims he came out with were absolutely unacceptable to the South-West Africa People's Organization and to the African countries taking part in the talks. The details of the new Western proposals have not yet been revealed.

But significantly, the British foreign secretary, Dr Owen, has started showing concern for the puppet political groups in Namibia. In a statement after the talks in New York, he said it had always been difficult to win United Nations recognition of SWAPO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Namibian people. Now, such a statement could only come from a person who wants, first, to undermine one of the basic positions of the United Nations plan, second, to saddle Namibia with a puppet regime, and third, to blame SWAPO for the failure of the talks.

But SWAPO's attitude is well known. The vice president of the organization, Mishake Muyongo, who took part in the talks, noted that the outcome of the talks did not depend on SWAPO. We are ready for a peace settlement, he declared, provided the Namibian people are really granted the opportunity to shape their future themselves.

U.S., UK ENVOYS ATTEMPT TO 'WHITEWASH' SMITH REGIME

LD222147 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Washington and London are not ceasing their attempts to impose the Anglo-American plan for a so-called peace settlement in Rhodesia. This is shown by an AFP report from Salisbury, which states that Low, U.S. ambassador to Zambia, and Renwick, head of the Rhodesian Department of the British Foreign Office, have arrived there in an atmosphere of secrecy.

They intend to have meetings with the heads of the racist regime of Rhodesia and to try to incline them to accept the Anglo-American proposals. The essence of these is to try to whitewash the Smith regime in the eyes of the world community while not substantially affecting the plan for maintaining the domination of the white minority.

(?But) the racists will not even go so far as such a cosmetic operation. Today, the Executive Committee of the Rhodesian Provisional Government, whose key posts are occupied by Smith supporters, made a statement saying that the regime does not intend to make any concessions and that elections to the Rhodesian Parliament will take place in April as had been announced earlier.

MP URGES UK TO HALT SOUTH AFRICAN DEPARTMENT'S ACTIVITIES

LD222212 Moscow TASS in English 1924 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] London, March 22, (TASS)--A demand that the British Government take action to halt the activities of the South African Information Department in Britain was made by Mr Bob Hughes, Labour MP and chairman of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, at a press conference in London today.

A letter has been sent to Foreign Secretary Owen drawing his attention to admissions made by former secretary of the South African Information Department, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, in a BBC broadcast last night that "disinformation" activities had been carried out secretly by the South Africans to promote the interests of the apartheid regime.

The Anti-Apartheid Movement is demanding that the Information Section of the South African Embassy should be ordered to leave the country immediately.

Mr Hughes cited a number of examples of the "disinformation" activities carried out against the Anti-Apartheid Movement, including the circulation of false petitions.

A letter has been sent to Dr Owen asking for a meeting so that representatives of the Anti-Apartheid Movement can present their case in fuller detail.

COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH MOZAMBIQUE

LD222251 Moscow in Portuguese to Africa 2030 GMT 21 Mar 79 LD

[Text] A protocol has been signed in Maputo on cultural and scientific cooperation between the USSR and the People's Republic of Mozambique for 1979 and 1980. It envisages the broadening of cooperation in the sphere of education, regular exchanges of educational and scientific literature, periodicals and book exhibitions. It is also agreed that Soviet doctors are to continue to work in Mozambique.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Graca Machel, minister of education and culture of the People's Republic of Mozambique, stressed that the uniting factor between the Soviet and Mozambique peoples is their common goals in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and racism for a better future for the broad popular masses.

SOVIET WARSHIPS CALL AT MAURITIUS, SAILORS RECEIVED BY PREMIER

LD230859 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Mar 79 p 1 LD

[TASS report: "Meetings on Mauritius"]

[Text] Antananarivo, 15 March--The laying of a wreath by Soviet sailors at the monument to V.I. Lenin in the capital of the state of Mauritius ended the official friendly visit by a detachment of Soviet warships to Port Louis at the invitation of the Mauritius Government.

The visit of the detachment, comprising the cruiser Vladivostok, a patrol vessel and a military tanker, was timed for the celebration of the 11th anniversary of Mauritius' independence. During their stay in Port Louis the Soviet sailors paid a courtesy visit to Prime Minister S. Ramgoolam.

Crew members from the Soviet warships met with activists of the "Mauritius-USSR" Friendship Society. Soviet sailors staged a concert at a soiree held in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

BREZHNEV CABLES ACTING GOVERNOR GENERAL OF MAURITIUS

LD222345 Moscow TASS in English 1740 GMT 22 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 22, TASS--Leonid Brezhnev has sent a telegram to the acting Governor-General of Mauritius Dayendranath Burrenchobay, in which he extended greetings (?and best) wishes for the success and well-being to the fraternal people of Mauritius, on the occasion of the country's national holiday--11th anniversary of independence.

In a reply telegram D. Burrenchobay expressed heartfelt gratitude for the greetings and good wishes.

ESTONIAN COURTS MUST PAY MORE ATTENTION TO CIVIL CASES

LD221401 Tallin SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 13 Mar 79 p 3 LD

[ETA report: "Plenum of the Estonian SSR Supreme Court"]

[Text] A routine plenum of the Estonian SSR Supreme Court has been held. Reports were heard from Deputy Chairmen of the Estonian SSR Supreme Court P. Afanasyev on the work of the Judicial Collegium on Criminal Matters and Ya. Odar on the work of the Judicial Collegium on Civil Matters.

The plenum noted that the judicial collegiums have done some work on the basis of the USSR Constitution and the Estonian SSR Constitution and also the resolutions of the USSR Supreme Court plenum. The educational role of legal processes has been raised. Much has been done to improve legal propaganda.

Reports and speeches stressed that the courts must use all their activity to educate citizens in the spirit of strict execution of Soviet laws and respect for the rules of socialist community life. They are obliged to struggle resolutely against embezzlement and misappropriation of state and social property, abuses of responsible positions, mismanagement, overreporting, the output of substandard produce and other crimes which damage state, kolkhoz cooperatives and social organizations, institutions and enterprises. Taking into account the constitutional demands on the defense of law and order, social interests, citizens' life and health and their honor and dignity, the courts must increase attention to the consideration of crimes against the individual and against public order. Legislation should be used unswervingly in combating drunkenness and alcoholism, and those who infringe labor and production discipline must not be treated indulgently.

The examination of juvenile cases demands special attention. In examining cases arising from family and marriage legal relations the court must proceed from the constitutional principles of state protection for the family, of the equal rights of marriage partners, and of parents' duty to raise children and prepare them for socially useful labor. Labor, housing and other civil cases must also be carefully examined.

In examining citizens' complaints the courts must check them carefully and promptly give sound rulings.

With the aim of preventing crime and lawbreaking, ties with the public must be extended and strengthened.

The plenum adopted appropriate resolutions.

The plenum was held under the guidance of R. Simonov, chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Court. Participating in the work of the plenum were: K. Kimmel, Estonian SSR prosecutor; E. Silvet, Estonian minister of justice; R. Polman, deputy chief of the Estonian CP Central Committee Administrative Organs Department; and K. Kolibab, member of the USSR Ministry of Justice Collegium.

GOSPLAN OFFICIAL ANSWERS READERS ON ENERGY-SAVING MEASURES

LD221513 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Mar 79 p 2 LD

[USSR Gosplan Deputy Chairman A.M. Lalayants "Replies to Readers' Questions" under the rubric "Thrift Is a Law for Everybody": "Be a Good Manager!"]

[Text] On 25 October 1978 PRAVDA published a letter from Kuzbass miners on ways to save fuel and energy. It prompted an extensive stream of replies, some of which were printed in the newspaper. Following a request from the PRAVDA editorial board, USSR Gosplan Deputy Chairman A.M. Lalayants today replies to a number of questions from readers actively discussing the problem of thrifty management.

[Question] In the article "Thrift Is a Law for Everybody" the miners stressed the need for a thrifty attitude toward using fuel and energy resources in all national economic sectors. What can you say concerning this?

[Answer] The problem is extremely urgent, since our economic development is accompanied by an intensive increase in oil and gas production and consumption. In 1978 the Soviet Union produced 572 million tons of oil, including gas condensate, 372 billion cubic meters of gas and 724 million tons of coal. Electricity generation reached 1,202 billion kilowatt-hours. However, as the 25th CPSU Congress noted, the strictest care and thrift remain the paramount condition for national economic development and improving working people's prosperity.

Moreover, the significance of rational utilization of every unit of resources, particularly petroleum and petroleum products, continues to grow in all sectors of material production and municipal services.

[Question] The 10th 5-Year Plan envisages an extensive program for saving and making rational use of fuel and energy resources. How is it being implemented?

[Answer] By improving technical processes and introducing highly efficient equipment, machines and mechanisms. The power-intensiveness of many major products has been substantially reduced. However, the possibilities, particularly in the metallurgical industry, are still far from exhausted. The introduction of noncompressor gas turbines, which make it possible to produce electricity by utilizing blast furnace gases, is subject to delays there. Much fuel oil and gas is burned in kilns and heating chambers for the reheating of steel ingots. These losses could be eradicated if uninterrupted steel production were introduced more extensively.

There are also great resources for thrift in the chemical industry. It is essential to speed up the introduction of new multiton batch and other progressive technological processes in the production of mineral fertilizers, plastics and other output, with the least expenditure of energy resources. Take the cement industry. There the application of new technology promises to have an extremely impressive effect. Cement production should be steered toward the dry method, which makes it possible to reduce proportional fuel expenditure by 20-25 percent.

[Question] As PRAVDA readers have written, there are still great heat losses in many industrial kilns and also in small and medium sized boiler-houses and in transport fuel. [paragraph continues]

However, modern achievements make it possible to insure virtually complete combustion of all kinds of fuel. How is the USSR Gosplan directing the implementation of this task?

[Answer] Indeed, how much fuel is expelled with exhaust gases, the temperature of which in some cases reaches thousands of degrees. This is due to the fact that fuel recovery, regeneration and utilization are not applied extensively enough. There are also objective causes here: Not enough heat-exchange and heat-utilizing equipment is produced. We still have not resolved the question of serious production of gas-fired industrial kilns. Most kilns are manufactured to a low technical standard by enterprises themselves, and this leads to a 15-30 percent overexpenditure of fuel. It is essential for the Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry to implement the task it has been set. The USSR Gosplan in turn is outlining the resolutions of this questions in plans being devised for the long term.

Substantial savings in transport could be obtained by improving the design of motor vehicles and restricting their speed to the optimum level. Of course it is also essential to improve the organization of transportation traffic, increase the quantity of haulage operations by the more economical diesel-powered motor vehicles, and switch some long-distance hauls to the railroads, which use 10 times less fuel and energy resources per ton-kilometer. It is very important to organize the exploitation of equipment in the proper fashion. The work of the collective at the Khiminskaya passenger vehicle transport column (Moskovskaya Oblast) could serve as an example. There, thanks to good technical servicing and personal thrift accounts, hundreds of tons of fuel have been saved in the first 3 years of the 5-year plan.

[Question] Some specialists who have participated in the debate in PRAVDA have written of shortcomings in establishing norms for resources. Are these observations justified?

[Answer] Yes, they are. Not all ministries and departments are meeting the targets for reducing norms in fuel and energy expenditure established in the 10th 5-Year Plan. In many cases these norms are arrived at statistically, often by calculating the cost of the gross system ["val"] rather than for each unit of specific output. The State Energy Monitoring Inspectorate, along with the USSR Gossnab, has carried out checks on 400 enterprises in various ministries. It was discovered that, in 70 percent of plants and factories, none were established which exceeded the proportional expenditure actually achieved in the previous year.

PRAVDA readers have justifiably criticized the USSR Gosstroy for inadequate attention to questions of fuel saving. In the past 15 years there has been a substantial increase in fuel expenditure for heating housing accommodations and public buildings. To a great extent this is due to the mass construction of large-panel buildings whose walls and windows have greater heat conductivity. The USSR Gosstroy, along with interested organizations, is currently drawing up proposals for sharply reducing heat losses.

The USSR Gosplan is adopting measures to establish technically based norms for the expenditure of energy, diesel fuel, motor gasoline and aviation fuel.

Unfortunately, a number of ministries and departments are still not meeting specific targets connected with the use of fuel, heat and electricity. Thus railroad freightcars are switching to roller bearings at an extremely slow pace. This means that there is an annual overexpenditure of 500,000 tons of diesel fuel, 1.5 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity and 30,000 tons of axle grease. [paragraph continues]

It is finally time for the Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machinebuilding and the Ministry of Automotive Industry to solve this important problem.

Collectives in fuel and energy sectors could do a great deal. In the oil industry the yield of deposits is still not very high. The introduction of so-called secondary and tertiary methods of promoting productive deposits will prolong the life of old fields.

There is substantial potential in pressing ahead with developing the extraction of gas condensate, of which 1 ton is equivalent to several tons of oil for the petrochemical industry. However, even extracted condensate is not always fully used, due to a lack of refinery capacities, as was justly noted by the authors of the article "From the Oilfield to the Consumer."

Losses of byproduct gas are still great at fields in West Siberia. The cause is delay in carrying out ancillary construction work at oil deposits and the slow construction of gas refineries. Each year the capital investments there are not assimilated. A large amount of fuel and fuel refinery products is lost in storage and transportation.

[Question] What is the Gosplan doing to generalize the experience accumulated in saving fuel and energy?

[Answer] There is a whole range of measures, linked mostly with extensive introduction of the achievements of scientific and technical progress and the creation of more economical energy-consuming devices and technical processes. There are plans to design and manufacture new, advanced models of efficient machinery for various national economic sectors. We are setting the task of reducing proportional fuel expenditure in electricity and heat generation by withdrawing outmoded equipment and modernizing large energy blocks and boilers.

The task has been set of devising standards for fuel and energy-consuming machinery, equipment and motors on a par with the most efficient world models. In railroad transportation we envisage increasing locomotives' individual capacities and train weights appropriately, and insuring the switchover to the more economic four-stroke diesel locomotives. Railroad electrification and laying long-welded track will continue.

The USSR Gosplan intends to devote great attention to further improving the fuel and energy balance by extensive utilization of nuclear energy, mainly in the European part of the USSR. The construction of large fuel and energy complexes on the basis of extracting cheap coal from opencut mines and of powerful gases in the east of the country is to be mounted. That is why it is so important to complete ahead of schedule all the projects of the first stage of that flagship of the fatherland's nuclear machinebuilding--the Atommash plant--and also to begin construction of the large excavator plant in Krasnoyarsk and the power industry metal constructions enterprise in Bratsk. Research enabling fuller future use to be made of energy derived from the sun, the wind and geothermal energy will be further developed.

[Question] Evidently the implementation of those plans is linked not only with increasing the production of essential equipment but also with improving management work.

[Answer] The USSR Gosplan's All-Union Scientific Research Institute for General Fuel and Energy Problems is drawing up a draft long-term comprehensive program for thrift and improving the efficiency of use of fuel and energy resources. It solves a number of problems, substantiates the main trends and assesses possibilities for thrift. It also outlines measures for exploiting those possibilities, and improves the system of planning, establishing norms and accounting.

For instance, changing the system of statistical accounting in using fuel and energy in industrial enterprises will make it possible to achieve a complete comparability of actual [otchetnyy] and planned balances in subsequent 5-year plans. We are considering enhancing the incentive role of prices by reflecting in them more fully the consumer cost of each kind of fuel. We are also planning to intensify the efficacy of incentives for saving primary and secondary resources.

The USSR Gosplan and the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology have organized provisional scientific and technical commissions for all major energy consuming sectors of the national economy. The commissions will generalize the achievements of technical progress and leading experience and spell out new ways to save. A law on the rational exploitation and preservation of energy resources is currently being drawn up. Questions connected with monitoring the rational consumption of fuel and energy are being resolved.

WAYS TO ATTAIN SUPREME AIM OF SOCIALIST PRODUCTION VIEWED

LD221655 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 79 pp 2-3 LD

[Article by Dr of Economic Sciences V. Peshekhonov and Candidate of Economic Sciences O. Ozherelyev under "Questions of Theory" rubric: "Highest Aim of Socialist Production"]

[Text] Leningrad--Under the conditions of developed socialism, the most important thesis of Marxism-Leninism that in the future society production will directly serve the interests of all working people has been realized. For the first time in history this thesis has been enshrined in the state's fundamental law--the USSR Constitution, which states that the highest aim of social production under socialism is the fullest satisfaction of the people's growing material and spiritual requirements.

Thus the aspirations of generations of fighters for the cause of the working class and all working people as well as the hopes and dreams of millions of builders of socialism have been embodied in law. They are also reflected in the most important party decisions. Thus the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum decreed: "Efforts are to be concentrated on insuring the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the 1979 national economic plan and on making fuller use of intensive factors of economic development--which will be another important link in realizing the 25th CPSU Congress decisions and the 10th 5-Year Plan targets and implementing the planned program for enhancing the Soviet people's well-being."

1.

People produce in order to consume. This would seem to be an elementary truth. In the life of society, however, the relationship between production and consumption and, vice versa, between consumption and production appears considerably more complex. Production and consumption are two poles; the relationship between them is conditioned at every historical stage by the system of prevailing ownership relations.

In the concrete reality of capitalist countries it turns out, for example, that some people produce while others consume and that the direct producers can consume only as much as accords with the interests of the ruling classes. In all modes of production based on private ownership, consumption has never been the immediate aim of production.

"Base avidity," F. Engels wrote, "has been the motive force of civilization from its first day to the present; wealth, I say again wealth and a third time wealth--the wealth not of society but of that separate wretched individual--has been its sole determining aim" (K. Marx and F. Engels: Works Vol 21 p 176). And the picture has not changed in the modern "free" bourgeois society: The "right" to be manufactured is acquired only by the product which brings the owner of the means of production the maximum profit; the worker acquires the right to personal consumption if he thereby enriches the capitalist.

The establishment of public ownership radically changes the direction of production. When drafting the party's first program, V.I. Lenin pointed out that following the victory of the preletarian revolution social production would develop to insure the FULL well-being and development of ALL members of society for the benefit [za schet] of ALL of society (See V.I. Lenin's Complete Collected Works Vol 6 p 232). That is, production begins to serve the working people themselves and to satisfy their constantly growing material and spiritual needs. This became the basic economic law of socialism.

This production orientation is possible because the working people-simultaneously become the owners and the total masters both of production itself and of its results. The unity of the fundamental interests of all members of society makes it possible to formulate scientifically the single aim of social production. One of socialism's important features is that here it is not individuals but all of society that sets itself certain economic and social goals. And it is only through their realization that every individual person can satisfy his personal interests and needs.

The realization of the aim of socialist production at various stages of socialist building has its own special features conditioned by the objective circumstances. Since the first days of Soviet power the party and state have done all they could to enhance the people's well-being. By virtue of certain reasons, however, our potential was for a long time limited. Now, in the developed socialist society supported by strong, progressive industry and by large-scale highly mechanized agriculture, it has become possible to make the increasingly full satisfaction of the citizens' diverse needs the chief, immediate practical aim of the economy. The 24th CPSU Congress adopted the policy of sharply turning the development of production toward more fully satisfying the working people's material and cultural needs. The party confirmed this policy at the 25th congress, proclaiming the steady raising of the people's material and cultural living standards as the highest aim of its economic strategy. "Insuring the strict fulfillment of the social program adopted by the 25th congress," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said at the meeting with voters on 2 March 1979, "the party will continue to devote paramount attention to improving the life of the Soviet people: to raising the working people's wages and real incomes, increasing public funds and constructing housing."

The substance of the highest aim of socialist production reflects on the one hand the historically attained level of the working people's material and spiritual aspirations, and on the other the qualitatively new possibilities of realizing them. Today this substance includes: a) achieving the full well-being of all working people; b) equalizing socioeconomic living and working conditions and insuring the comprehensive development of all members of society, not of individuals or social groups.

2.

The aim of socialist production is attained by the totality of the material and spiritual benefits being created by society in accordance with the specific needs for them. However, it is important here to single out that part of them which represents the end result of social labor over a given period, for example 1 year. It will be the pure product of society. But in monetary form this generalizing indicator is represented by the national income which, as was pointed out at the 25th CPSU Congress, most fully characterizes the results of economic development.

Socialist production organization has insured high and stable national income growth rates. In 1977 its volume in the Soviet Union stood at 770 percent of the 1950 level, whereas in the United States it was 251 percent, in the FRG 410 percent, in France 355 percent and in Britain 193 percent.

Approximately 75 percent of the national income is now made up of the consumption fund and, taking spending on housing and sociocultural construction into account, approximately 80 percent of its total volume is channeled directly toward enhancing the people's well-being. Thus R1.5 trillion was directed toward these purposes in 1974-1978. This was almost one-third more than in the preceding 5 years. The population's real income is growing steadily as a result. Compared with 1940, in 1978 per capita income had increased 450 percent, including 280 percent for workers and employees and 550 percent for kolkhoz members.

In contrast with the cult of things propagandized by bourgeois ideologues, which develops in people the mentality of egoism and moneygrubbing, socialist society does everything to insure that the growth of the working people's material well-being is accompanied by their spiritual growth and by the fostering of high moral qualities in them.

Constant and purposeful shaping of the working people's requirements is of tremendous significance. It is known that not all the existing requirements can be considered reasonable. Acquisitiveness, the desire for unnecessary luxury and also requirements whose satisfaction damages people's physical and moral health--all this can slow down the course of our development. It is obvious that as society advances toward communism, it makes increasingly full use of economic and educational levers to insure the preferential development of lofty, socially significant requirements.

This is reflected, in particular, in the progressive change in the structure of consumption. Thus, with the growth in material well-being total family expenditure on furniture and consumer goods is increasing relatively and absolutely. The feeding of the urban and rural population is also being restructured; the proportion of high-calorie products is increasing.

A special feature of the 10th 5-Year Plan, in addition to raising individual incomes and the level of consumption of material benefits, is that of steadily expanding the sphere of services that make housework easier and improving working and leisure conditions and working people's health protection. And this means that socialist production is increasingly oriented toward creating conditions for the comprehensive development of man and his creative abilities.

The socialist state assumes the cost of meeting a wide range of needs which, from the social viewpoint, must be satisfied without fail, regardless of the level of income. [paragraph continues]

These include provisions for housing and medical aid, acquiring education and qualifications, and engaging in physical culture and sports. For example, our country now holds first place in the world in terms of the number of medical personnel per capita. We have, in the main, completed the transition to universal secondary education; more apartments are now being constructed in the USSR than in any capitalist country; last year 51 million working people and members of their families took vacations in sanatoriums, rest homes and tourist bases. These figures graphically characterize both the development of the Soviet people's requirements and the rising level at which they are being satisfied. In the mature socialist society, the USSR Constitution states, "increasingly favorable conditions are taking shape for the comprehensive development of the individual."

It should be pointed out in this connection that, in addition to the consumption fund, the accumulation fund--thanks to which the content of labor is changing and working conditions are improving--also plays a considerable role in creating these conditions. New equipment and improved technological processes are making labor easier and more attractive and opening up broad potential for creativity. This is making high demands on the creators of new equipment and technological processes. When planning technical systems the practical resolution of a comprehensive task must be insured: that of raising production efficiency, improving working conditions and developing the workers' creative capacities.

3.

The rapid growth in the people's well-being is a result of the dynamic development of the Soviet economy and the selfless labor of workers, kolkhoz members and the intelligentsia. During the first 3 years of the current 5-year plan our country made substantial headway in all directions of economic and social progress. However, people's requirements do not stand still. They improve in terms of quality and expand in terms of quantity; some die while others are born and develop. This advances more and more tasks whose resolution is directly connected with realizing the highest aim of socialist production.

People, workers possessing definite abilities, production experience and knowledge are the chief factors in production. Socialism affords working people truly infinite potential for displaying talent, innovativeness and social activity.

As the country's masters, the working people display high awareness of their public duty in a creative attitude toward labor, in careful consumption of material resources and in constant concern to raise production efficiency and output quality. "Concern for state interests," V. Chicherov, worker at the Leningradskiy Metallicheskiy Zavod Association, once said, "has become an immutable law in our life. Everything we have achieved over the years of Soviet power is the result of the Soviet people's selfless and creative labor and heroic struggle under the Leninist party's leadership. Life has changed beyond recognition for the better. And this is very good. But it has not come about of its own accord, and this must not be forgotten. Our further efforts depend on ourselves, on how we work."

Material well-being is directly dependent on the growth rate of consumer goods. The CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum once again drew attention to the need to consistently implement the party's policy of accelerated development for the Group B sectors. It is known that production in general cannot develop unconnected with personal consumption. But a special feature of mature socialism is that personal consumption is now becoming the direct motive of social production. The entire course of economic development confirms that Group B meeting modern requirements is an important condition for economic efficiency as a whole. [paragraph continues]

However, certain workers of planning and economic organs continue to regard Group B as a kind of balance wheel, the plenum pointed out. By cutting appropriations for its development they try to overcome certain imbalances in the plan.

Achieving the aim of socialist production presupposes not only quantitatively meeting requirements; the maximum possible raising of output quality is becoming the central problem of the economy of developed socialism. Calculations show that the effectiveness of investments channeled in this direction is roughly twice that of expenditure on increasing the production volume.

Increased economic efficiency is directly dependent on introducing the achievements of scientific and technical progress in all sectors of the economy. The amount of equipment available to labor--the chief factor in raising its productivity--increases on this basis. In the national economy as a whole the capital-labor ratio will rise 36 percent during the 10th 5-Year Plan, including 34 percent in industry, more than 60 percent in agriculture and 39 percent in construction.

Improving the forms and methods of economic leadership has become an important means of raising the efficiency of socialist production and insuring its dynamic and balanced development. Science and the experience of the past decade convincingly attest that the orientation of production collectives' work toward delivering a specific range of products of a certain quality and within a strictly set deadline is directly linked with realizing the highest aim of socialist production.

Unfortunately, this truth cannot be understood by those representatives of economic science who try to prove, for example, that the work of an enterprise or association is aimed at making and increasing profits. Profit--like, incidentally, all other cost indicators--is not an end in itself but the derivative (calculated) results of the labor collectives' activities. In pursuit of volume cost indicators many enterprises orient the plan toward expensive materials. Thus it was pointed out only recently that the orders of Leningrad trade organizations for cotton shirts are being filled only 50 percent, while the Rassvet Association, without coordinating with the trade, is continuing to "push" expensive products which are not even in demand. For the same reasons production of many types of children's clothes is increasing only slowly.

The priority of the highest aim demands comparability of the generalizing cost indicator for production activity at all levels of management. In our opinion the net output indicator can be such a generalizing indicator, since an increase in national income always coresponds with an increase in net output at enterprises. Here the wage fund can be supplemented and amended by the normative method--as a certain percentage of net output.

Orienting all links of the Soviet economy toward achieving the highest aim of socialist production and national economic end results accords with the objective economic and social conditions of developed socialism. The mighty material and technical base, mature production relations and the growing social equality and ideological and political cohesion of all the peoples of our great motherland are the guarantee of fully satisfying the Soviet people's material and spiritual requirements.

SOME AREAS OF USSR LAG BEHIND IN FIELD DRESSING

LD221151 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Mar 79 p 2 LD

[A. Pazhitnev agricultural review: "The Basis of the Harvest"]

[Excerpts] Some 22,000 fertility detachments have been organized in the countryside. Approximately 600 million tons of manure had been carted out by the beginning of March. Things are going well on many farms in the Ukraine, Belorussia, Azerbaijan, and Tadzhikistan. These republics have procured more organic fertilizer than at the same time last year. Grain growers in Stavropolskiy Kray and Sakhalinskaya and a number of other oblasts are close to completing the targets set for the winter-spring period.

At the same time a noticeable lag has been permitted on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Moldavia, Turkmenia, Latvia and some RSFSR oblasts. Thus farmers have fulfilled the plan for carting out manure as follows: Voronezhskaya Oblast 22 percent; Yaroslavskaya Oblast 35 percent; and Mordovian ASSR 38 percent. Farms in the Tatarskaya ASSR have procured only one-third as much local fertilizer as last year. Baltasinskiy and Sabinskiy rayons, for example, work under the same conditions, but their indicators are different. There are eight fertility detachments operating in Baltaskinskiy Rayon. In 1 day they ship up to 2,000 tons of organic fertilizer from farmsteads to fields. But in neighboring Sabinskiy Rayon the picture is different. The timetable for carting out manure is not being fulfilled although it is not very long until fieldwork starts.

In the past month the rates of carting out local fertilizers on farms in Kalininskaya, Saratovskaya and a number of other oblasts have increased appreciably. Meanwhile in Kurskaya Oblast January and February were declared shock months for procuring organic fertilizer, and it was decided to ship 3 million tons of it to the fields. The 2-month period is over. What has been done? In January farms in the oblast carted out 431,000 tons of manure and in February 892,000 tons. Plans for the transportation of fertilizer are also breaking down in certain other oblasts.

Local party committees, agricultural organs and kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders are required to adopt measures to rectify the situation and to establish daily control over the fulfillment of plans for organic fertilizer procurement.

Chemical land improvement is being successfully conducted on farms in Khabarovskiy Kray and Moskovskaya, Amurskaya and several other oblasts. At the same time, major delays are being tolerated in a number of regions of the RSFSR Non-Chernozem Zone, where liming is an integral part of raising land fertility. Last year kolkhozes and sovkhozes in G Gorkovskaya Oblast failed to complete this work on 83,000 hectares, those in Permskaya Oblast--95,000 and those in Kirovskaya Oblast--150,000 hectares. This year too, work is being performed there at a slow pace.

The first month of spring is coming into its own. Farmers in the southern oases of Turkmenia and Uzbekistan have taken their seeders out into the fields. Soon work will start in the southern Ukraine, on the expanses of the Kuban and in other regions. There is no task more important now for the rural workers than that of completing the preparations for fieldwork in a short period and at a high standard, to fertilize the fields well, and to lay a reliable foundation for the harvest of the fourth year of the 5-year plan.

INSTANCES OF LOW MACHINE READINESS FOR SPRING FIELDWORK

LD221637 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 79 p 1 LD

[A. Pazhitnev agricultural review: "As Spring Dictates"]

[Text] Farmers call the pilots of the aircraft used in agricultural operations the first harbingers of spring. The winged assistants of the grain growers have already appeared over the fields of winter crops, and in the country's southern regions the sowers have gone out onto the steppe expanses. The rural machine operators have an increasing number of matters with which to concern themselves: They have to put their equipment in order not later than 2 weeks before the start of fieldwork. So how is this repair work being performed? The USSR Central Statistical Administration reports that by 1 March 88 percent of the country's tractors, 95 percent of its plows and 93 percent of its seed drills were ready for operation. The initiators of the competition for the successful preparation of equipment for the spring--the machine operators of Tadzhikistan, Krasnodarskiy Kray and Kemerovskaya, Tulskaya, Donetskaya and Severo-Kazakhstanskaya oblasts--have kept their promise. In Tadzhikistan, for example, 93 percent of tractors, 91 percent of plows and 97 percent of seed drills are in good order. This work is being performed rapidly on the farms of the Ukraine, Moldavia, Stavropolskiy Kray, and Moskovskaya and Saratovskaya oblasts.

The example of the stalwarts indicates that, given good labor organization and a reliable supply of spare parts for the farms, the machinery can be in working order long before the start of the spring sowing. However, in certain regions equipment repair is lagging. The fact that, by the beginning of March, more than 26,000 Kirovets tractors and more than 11,000 T-150K tractors were still standing idle, awaiting repair, is a cause for concern. The preparation of plows and seed drills for field operations is proceeding more slowly than last year in Kirovskaya and Permskaya oblasts.

It has become the rule for many of the country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes that combines are repaired in winter at the same time as tractors trailer and mounted implements. In Estonia, for instance, 77 percent of the combines had been prepared by the beginning of March; in Belorussia, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Latvia, the figure was 73 percent, while in Ivanovskaya Oblast it was 96 percent. But in Uzbekistan only 37 percent of the grain-harvesting machines were in good repair; in Turkmenia and Voronezhskaya and Ryazanskaya oblasts--between 37 and 39 percent, and in Lipetskaya and Sverdlovskaya oblasts--32 and 33 percent respectively. Are these regions really counting on repairing a considerable proportion of the combines in the spring when one job literally "overtakes" another? After all, practice shows that during sowing, haymaking, fodder procurement and crop tending it is extremely difficult for the machine operators to "make" time to repair harvesting equipment.

The Goskomselkhoztekhnika associations are urged to give the farmers great assistance in repairing machinery. They have specialized enterprises and skilled repair cadres at their disposal. But the USSR Central Statistical Administration's data indicate that since 1 October 1978 through 1 March 1979 187,497 tractors have undergone capital repairs here, which is 19,500 less than over the same period a year ago. The associations' specialists and workshop chiefs should organize work on a two-shift basis and accelerate the repair of equipment.

The editorial office is now receiving many letters in which rural workers are complaining that the machinebuilders are letting them down and are holding up the delivery of spare parts. They are making major complaints against the collectives of the Altay motor plant, the Odessapochvomash production association, the Kuybyshev valve plant and the Michurinsk Motordetal association, which have failed to supply the grain growers what they ordered. [paragraph continues]

And, after all, without these parts you cannot repair a piece of machinery or take it out onto the fields.

Incidentally, the enterprises which have failed to fulfill their orders are not only mentioned in the machine operators' letters. They are continually being named at sessions of the All-Union Operational Staff. The heads of the Ministries of Tractor and Agricultural Machinebuilding and Automotive Industry repeatedly promised to rectify the situation. But at the next staff session complaints were again leveled against these same plants. Is it not time to move from words to deeds and investigate carefully what is delaying the machinebuilders' work, to help the collectives overcome this lag and to insure that they fulfill the countryside's orders on time and supply high-quality items. The rural workers have a strenuous period ahead of them. Last fall not all farms coped with the plan for sowing winter crops and for fall plowing. This increases the volume of fieldwork to be done in the spring. This means that it is now necessary to display a high degree of organization, to prepare the equipment, seed and fertilizer carefully and to arm the machine operators with advanced experience so that all elements of the sowing process may function efficiently and in a well-coordinated manner.

KUBAN RAYONS EXPERIENCE SHORTAGE OF TOP-QUALITY SEEDS

LD221553 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 79 p 1 LD

[Correspondent V. Logvinov report: "The Kuban Is Sowing"]

[Excerpt] Krasnodarskiy Kray--Although on the whole the Kuban has enough seeds for grain and leguminous crops, they are by no means equally distributed. Thus in Anapskiy, Korenovskiy, Pavlovskiy and Kavkazskiy rayons there is more sowingmaterial than needed, but Tbilisskiy Rayon has only laid in 88 percent of the planned stock of highest-quality seeds, while the corresponding figure for Starominskiy Rayon is 80 percent, Otradnenskiy Rayon--62 percent and Mostovskiy Rayon--41 percent. Party and economic organs in the kray and leaders and specialists of kolkhozes and sovkhozes must rectify the situation and devote more attention to seeds--the basis of the harvest. The exchange of sowing material within and between farms for the whole range of crops must be completed without delay.

The crop growers of the Kuban face an intensive period of struggle for the harvest. In the fourth year of the 5-year plan they have pledged to increase grain production to 9 million tons. It has also been resolved to considerably overfulfill national economic targets for the procurement of agricultural productions and to sell the state 4.36 million tons of grain, including 3 million tons of strong and valuable wheats.

The patriotic movement among working people in the kray to obtain the highest yield is spreading daily. All crop growers are measuring themselves against the competiton front-runners.